

# **Dominant systems for asymptotic analysis of reaction networks**

**Dynamic and static limitation in reaction networks, revisited**

Alexander Gorban  
University of Leicester, UK

Ovidiu Radulescu  
University of Rennes, France

## Plan

1. Kinetic of linear networks
2. Idea of limitation. Simple examples
3. Model reduction before model creation:  
constant ordering versus constant values
4. Catalytic cycle with limiting step
5. Auxiliary discrete dynamic systems
6. Cycles surgery
7. Example: prism of reactions
8. Conclusion and outlook

## Linear network of chemical reactions

$A_i$  are reagents,  $c_i$  is concentration of  $A_i$ .

All the reactions are of the type  $A_i \rightarrow A_j$ .

$k_{ji} > 0$  is the reaction  $A_i \rightarrow A_j$  rate constant.

The reaction rates:  $w_{ji} = k_{ji}c_i$ .

Kinetic equation

$$\dot{c}_i = \sum_{j, j \neq i} (k_{ij}c_j - k_{ji}c_i) \text{ or } \dot{c} = \mathbf{K}c, \quad (1)$$

A **linear conservation law** is a linear function  $b(c) = \sum_i b_i c_i$  whose value is preserved by the dynamics.

Example:  $b^0 = \sum_i c_i$  is the conservation law.

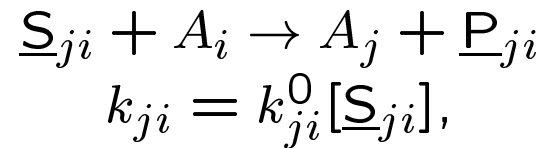
A set  $E$  in concentration space is **positively invariant**, if any solution  $c(t)$  that starts in  $E$  at time  $t_0$  ( $c(t_0) \in E$ ) belongs to  $E$  for  $t > t_0$ .

The **standard simplex**  $\Sigma = \{c \mid c_i \geq 0, \sum_i c_i = 1\}$  is positively invariant.

- For all eigenvalues  $\lambda$  of  $\mathbf{K}$   $Re\lambda \leq 0$ , because solutions cannot leave  $\Sigma$  in positive time;
- If  $Re\lambda = 0$  then  $\lambda = 0$ , because intersection of  $\Sigma$  with any plane is a polygon, and a polygon cannot be invariant with respect to rotation group;
- The Jordan cell of  $\mathbf{K}$  that corresponds to zero eigenvalue is diagonal – because all solutions should be bounded in  $\Sigma$  for positive time.
- The shift in time, operator  $\exp(\mathbf{K}t)$ , is a contraction in the  $l_1$  norm for  $t > 0$ : for  $t > 0$  and any two solutions of (1)  $c(t), c'(t) \in \Sigma$

$$\sum_i |c_i(t) - c'_i(t)| \leq \sum_i |c_i(0) - c'_i(0)|.$$

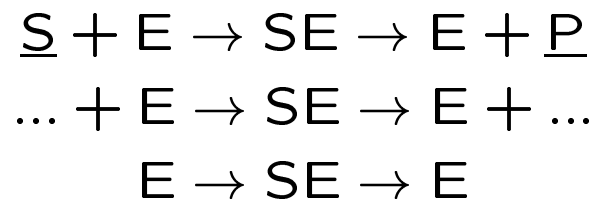
## Pseudomonomolecular reactions



where  $[\underline{S}_{ji}]$  is concentration of the substrate  $\underline{S}_{ji}$ ,

$$[\underline{S}_{ji}] \gg c_i$$

For example, the Michaelis-Menten system:



## LIMITING STEP

Linear chain of reactions  $A_1 \rightarrow A_2 \rightarrow \dots A_n$  with  
reaction rate constants  $k_i$  (for  $A_i \rightarrow A_{i+1}$ )

Let  $k_q$  be the smallest constant:  $k_q \ll k_i$  ( $i \neq q$ )

In time scale  $\sim 1/k_q$ :

$A_1, \dots, A_{q-1}$  transform fast into  $A_q$ ,

$A_{q+1}, \dots, A_{n-1}$  transform fast into  $A_n$ ,

only two components,  $A_q$  and  $A_n$ , are present,

the whole chain behaves as a single reaction  $A_q \xrightarrow{k_q} A_n$

## **“Vox populi, vox Dei”**

*Google gave on 31st December 2006:*

- for “quasi-equilibrium” – 301000 links;
- for “quasi steady state” 347000 and for “pseudo steady state” 76200, 423000 together;
- for “slow manifold” 29800 only, and for “invariant manifold” 98100;
- for “singular perturbation” 361000 links;
- for “model reduction” even more, 373000;
- but for “limiting step” – 714000!



To find constants we need to operate with *simple models*.

We need to simplify the *unknown model*.

We have some hypothesis about the network structure

Usually, something is big, and something is small enough, we can guess the constant *ordering* ( $I = (i, j)$ ):

$$k_{I_1} \ll k_{I_2} \ll k_{I_3} \ll \dots$$

**Irreversible Cycle**  $A_1 \rightarrow A_2 \rightarrow \dots A_n \rightarrow A_1$   
with reaction rate constants  $k_i$  (for  $A_i \rightarrow \dots$ )

**Limiting step**  $A_n \rightarrow A_1$   
with reaction rate constant  $k_n \ll k_i$  ( $i < n$ )

The elementary reaction rate:  $w_i = k_i c_i$

The kinetic equation:  $\dot{c}_i = w_{i-1} - w_i$  ( $w_0 = w_n$ )

In the stationary state all the  $w_i$  are equal:  $w_i = w$ .

## Static limitation in a cycle

$$w = \frac{b}{\frac{1}{k_1} + \dots + \frac{1}{k_n}}, \text{ where } b = \sum_i c_i$$

If  $k_n \ll k_i$  ( $i < n$ ) then

$$w \approx k_n b, \quad c_n \approx b \left( 1 - \sum_{i < n} \frac{k_n}{k_i} \right), \quad c_i \approx b \frac{k_n}{k_i}$$

## Dynamic limitation in a cycle, eigenvalues

If  $k_n/k_i$  is small for all  $i < n$ , then the kinetic matrix has one simple zero eigenvalue that corresponds to the conservation law  $\sum c_i = b$  and  $n - 1$  nonzero eigenvalues

$$\lambda_i = -k_i + \delta_i \quad (i < n),$$

where  $\delta_i \rightarrow 0$  when  $\sum_{i < n} \frac{k_n}{k_i} \rightarrow 0$ .

## Dynamic limitation in a cycle, eigenvectors:

$$l^i \mathbf{K} = \lambda_i l^i; \quad \mathbf{K} r^i = \lambda_i r^i; \quad (l^i, r^j) = \delta_{ij}: \quad \text{for } m > 0$$

$$r_{i+m}^i \approx \prod_{j=1}^m \frac{k_{i+j-1}}{k_{i+j} - k_i} = \frac{k_i}{k_{i+m} - k_i} \prod_{j=1}^{m-1} \frac{k_{i+j}}{k_{i+j} - k_i};$$

$$l_{i-m}^i \approx \prod_{j=1}^m \frac{k_{i-j}}{k_{i-j} - k_i};$$

$$l_i^i = r_i^i = 1 \quad \text{and} \quad r_{i-m}^i = l_{i+m}^i = 0.$$

If  $k_{i_1} \gg k_{i_2} \gg \dots \gg k_{i_n} = k_n$  then

$$r_{i+m}^i \approx 1, -1, \text{ or } 0; \quad l_{j-m}^i \approx 1, \text{ or } 0$$

## The main goal

For arbitrary reaction network with well separated constants

$$k_{I_1} \gg k_{I_2} \gg k_{I_3} \gg \dots$$

we build an acyclic reaction network that approximates kinetic of initial network.

## Sinks and ergodicity in reaction networks

A nonempty set  $V$  of vertices forms a *sink*, if there are no oriented edges from  $A_i \in V$  to any  $A_j \notin V$ .

For example, in the reaction graph  $A_1 \leftarrow A_2 \rightarrow A_3$  the one-vertex sets  $\{A_1\}$  and  $\{A_3\}$  are sinks. A sink is *minimal* if it does not contain a strictly smaller sink.

For any  $c(0) \in \Sigma$  there exists  $\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \exp(\mathbf{K}t) c(0)$ . A linear network is *weakly ergodic*, if for all  $c(0) \in \Sigma$  these limits coincide.

**The following properties are equivalent:**

- i) the network is weakly ergodic.
- ii) for each two vertices  $A_i, A_j$  ( $i \neq j$ ) we can find such a vertex  $A_k$  that an oriented paths exist from  $A_i$  to  $A_k$  and from  $A_j$  to  $A_k$  (it might be  $i = k$  or  $j = k$ ).
- iii) the network has only one minimal sink.
- iv) there is an unique linear conservation law, namely  $b^0(c) = \sum_{i=1}^q c_i$  (the zero eigenvalue of the matrix  $\mathbf{K}$  is not degenerate).



## Integration of orderings

### 1. Auxiliary discrete dynamical systems

For each  $A_i$ ,  $\kappa_i = \max_j \{k_{ji}\}$ ,  $\phi(i) = \arg \max_j \{k_{ji}\}$ ;  
 $\phi(i) = i$  if there is no outgoing reaction  $A_i \rightarrow A_j$ .

$\phi$  determines *auxiliary dynamical system* on a set  $\mathcal{A} = \{A_i\}$ .

Let us decompose this system and find the cycles  $C_j$  with basins of attraction,  $Att(C_j)$ :  $\mathcal{A} = \cup_j Att(C_j)$ .

## Integration of orderings

2. **If all  $C_j$  are sinks** in the initial network, then let us delete the limited steps from cycles  $C_j$ . After that, the kinetics of *acyclic* reaction network  $A_i \rightarrow A_{\phi(i)}$  with constants  $\kappa_i$  approximates the proper kinetics uniformly for any constant values under given ordering.

Example: a “dominant cycle”  $A_1 \rightarrow A_2 \rightarrow \dots A_n \rightarrow A_1$ , if all other reactions  $A_i \rightarrow A_j$  have constants  $k_{ji} \ll k_{i+1 i}$ .

## Integration of orderings

**3. If some of  $C_j$  are not sinks** in the initial network, then we glue cycles:

**A.** For each  $C_i$  we introduce a new vertex  $A_i$ . The new set of vertices,  $\mathcal{A}^1 = \mathcal{A} \cup \{A^1, A^2, \dots\} \setminus (\cup_i C_i)$ .

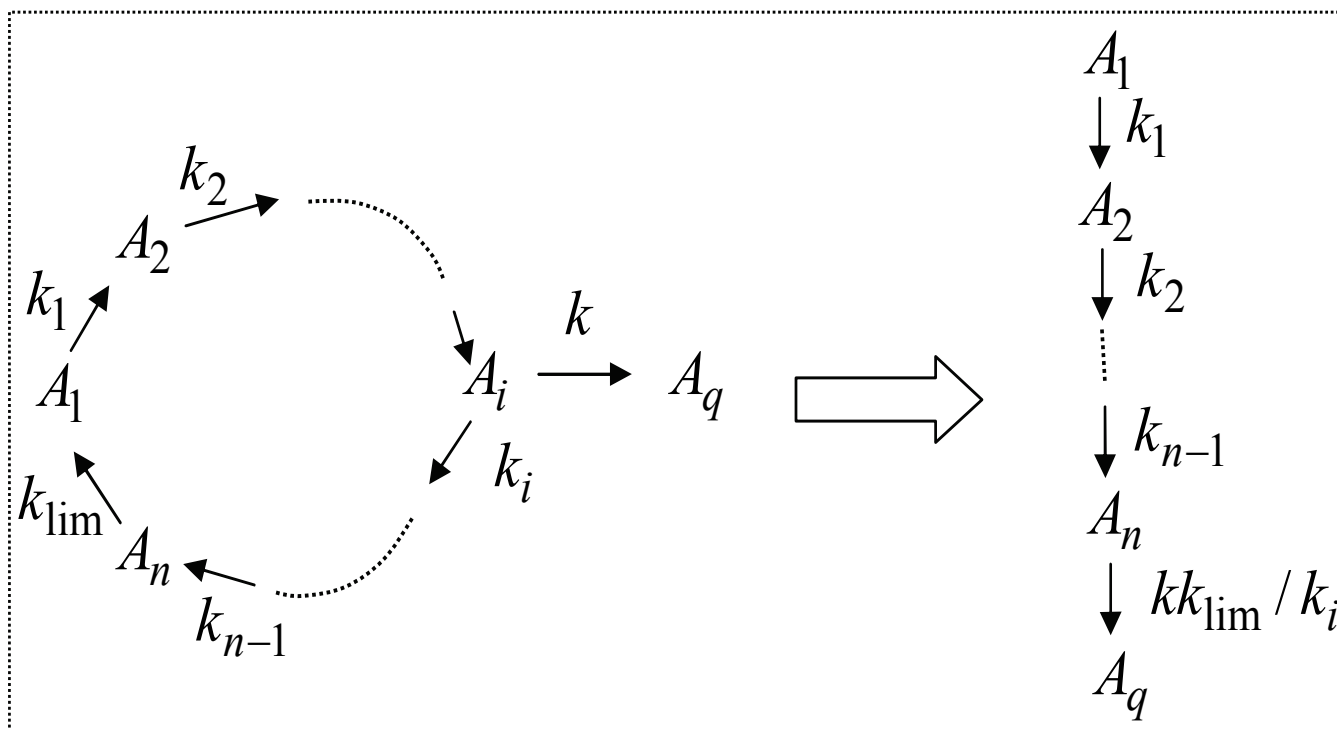
**B.** For each  $C_i$ , we find a normalized stationary distribution due to internal reactions of  $C_i$ . Due to limitation,  $c_j^* \approx \kappa_{\text{lim } i} / \kappa_j, A_j \in C_i$ .

**C.** For each reaction  $A_j \rightarrow A_q$  ( $A_j \in C_i, A_q \notin C_i$ ) we define reaction  $A^i \rightarrow A_q$  with the constant  $k_{qj} c_j^*$ .

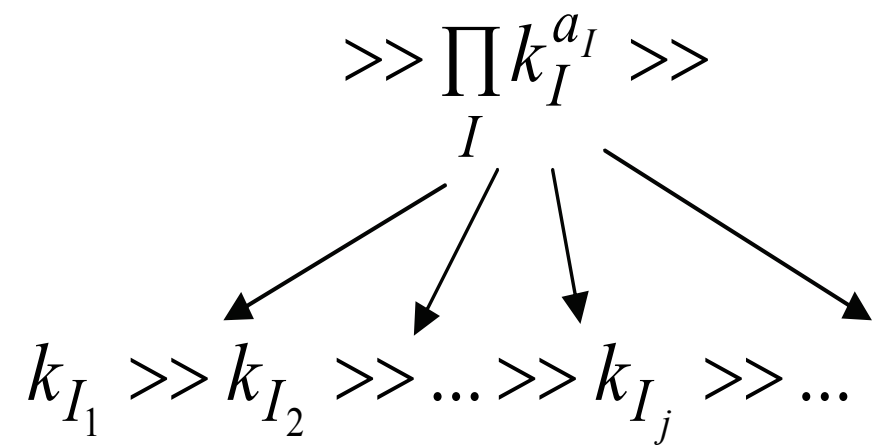
**We prepared a new reaction network. Iterate.**

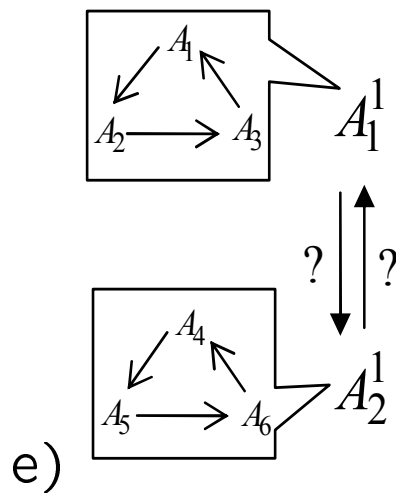
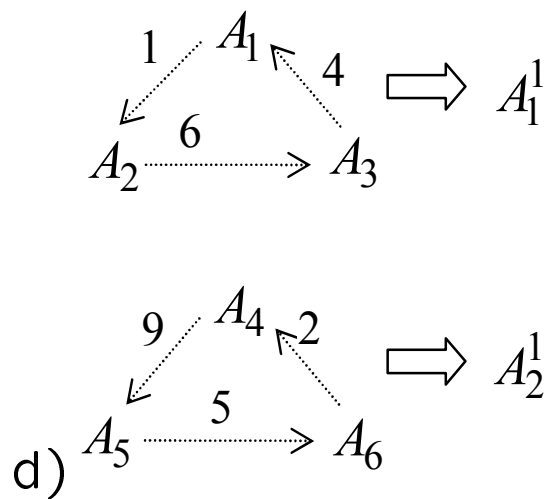
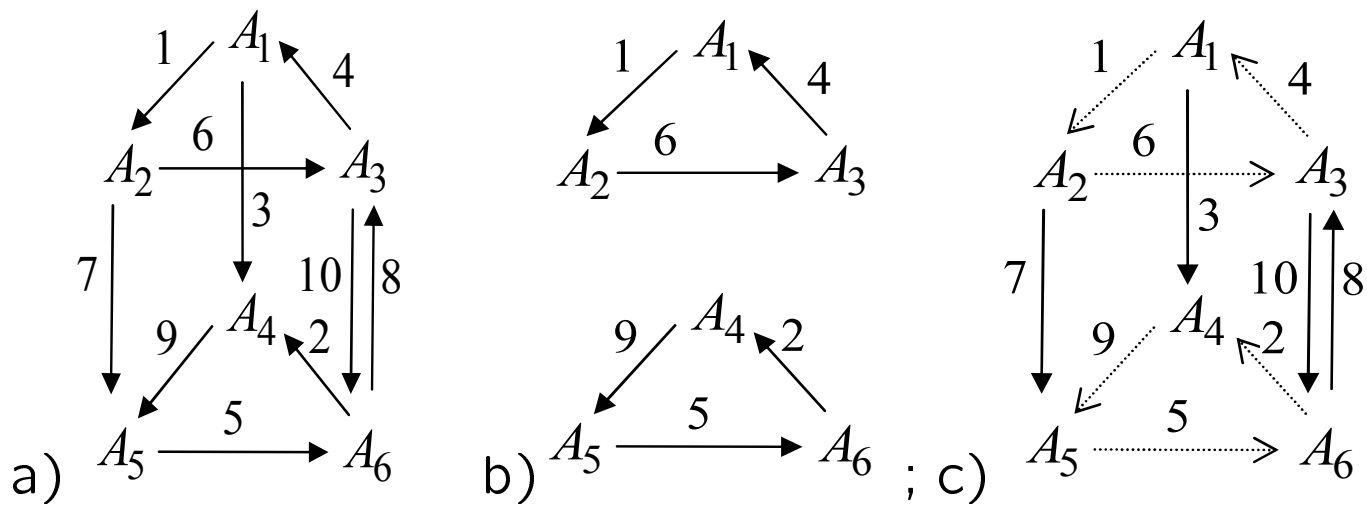
After several steps, we get an auxiliary dynamic system with cycles that are sinks. After that, we shall go back, *restore cycles*, delete limiting steps,... The result is the acyclic dynamic system that approximates kinetics of initial system.

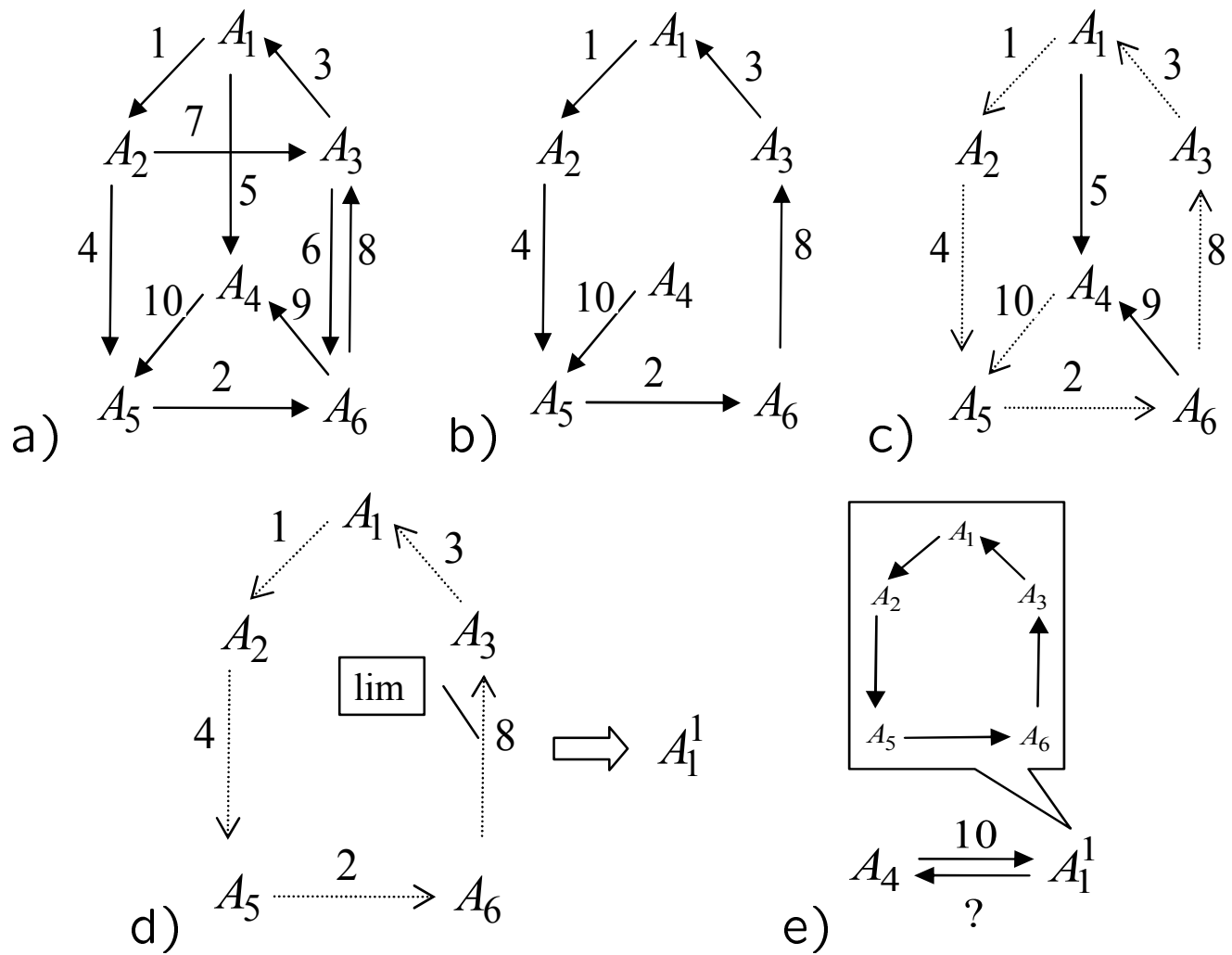
## Cycles surgery on the way back



## Inclusion monomials in the ordering









## Three zero-one laws for multiscale linear networks

Steady states (for weakly ergodic networks)

Limit states (for non-ergodic networks)

$\text{SINK1} \dots \leftarrow A_i \rightarrow \dots \text{SINK2}$

From each vertex almost all flux goes either to SINK1, or to SINK2 (“xor” instead of “or”).

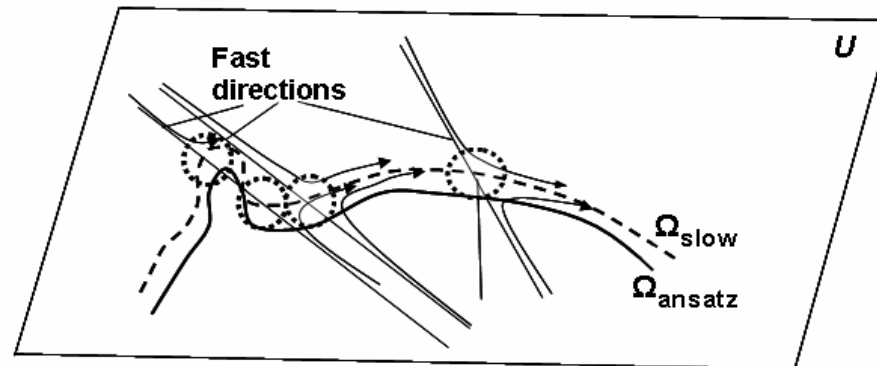
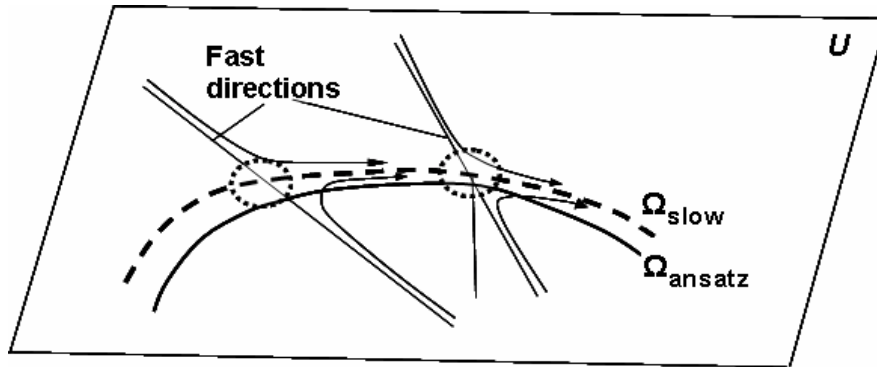
Relaxation eigenmodes (eigenvectors)

## **CONCLUSION**

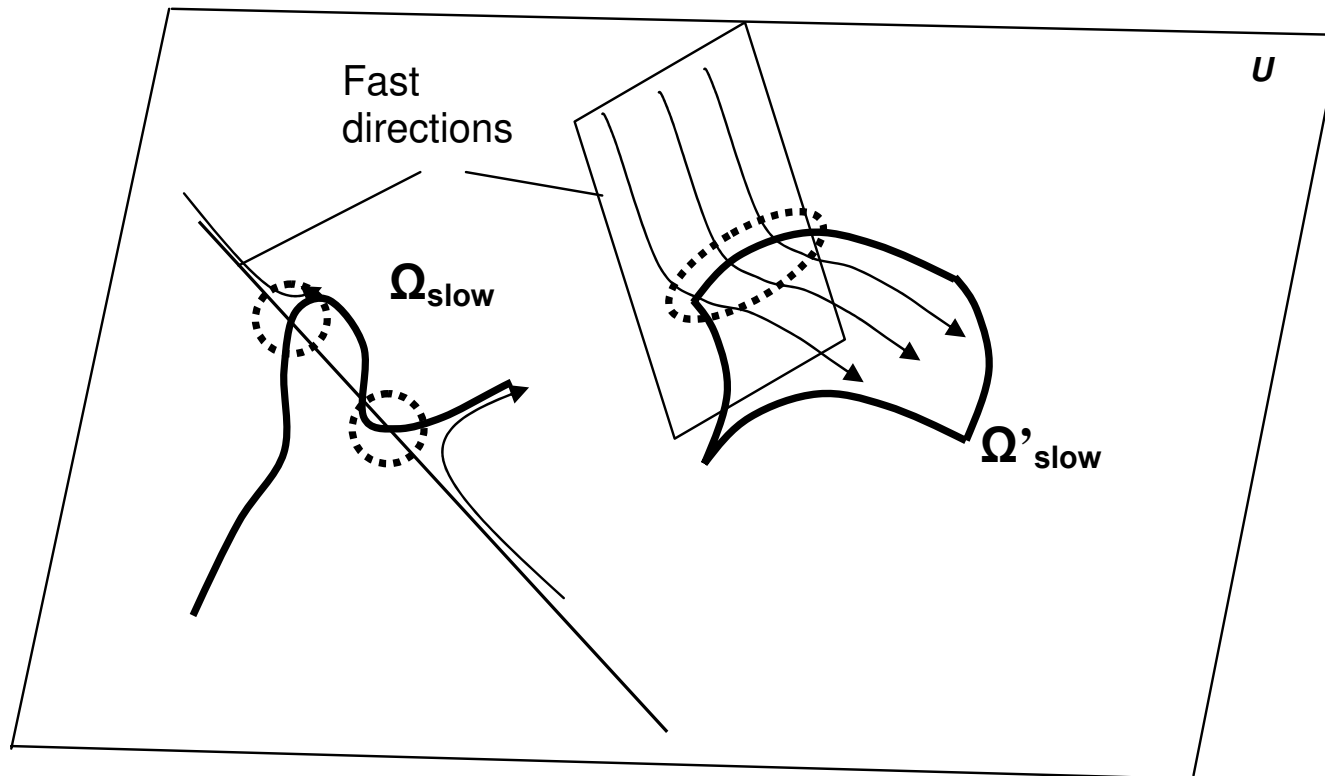
- Dominant systems correspond to faces of the Newton polyhedron for the spectral problem;
- We have the algorithm for extraction of the dominant systems from the graph of reactions without computation of determinants;
- This method can be considered as development of the Vishik-Lyusternik-Lidskii perturbation theory;
- “Integration of orderings” can be used if the reaction rate constants are known only “by orders”;

- Dominant systems give the rough and robust approximation to solution of kinetic equations and can also serve for preconditioning purposes in numerics;
- Zero-one laws for multiscale systems cause the correspondent “phase transitions” and generate new phenomenology of qualitative behaviour for such systems;
- Linear systems - discrete dynamics on the set of components (species); Nonlinear systems - discrete dynamics on the set of small reaction networks.

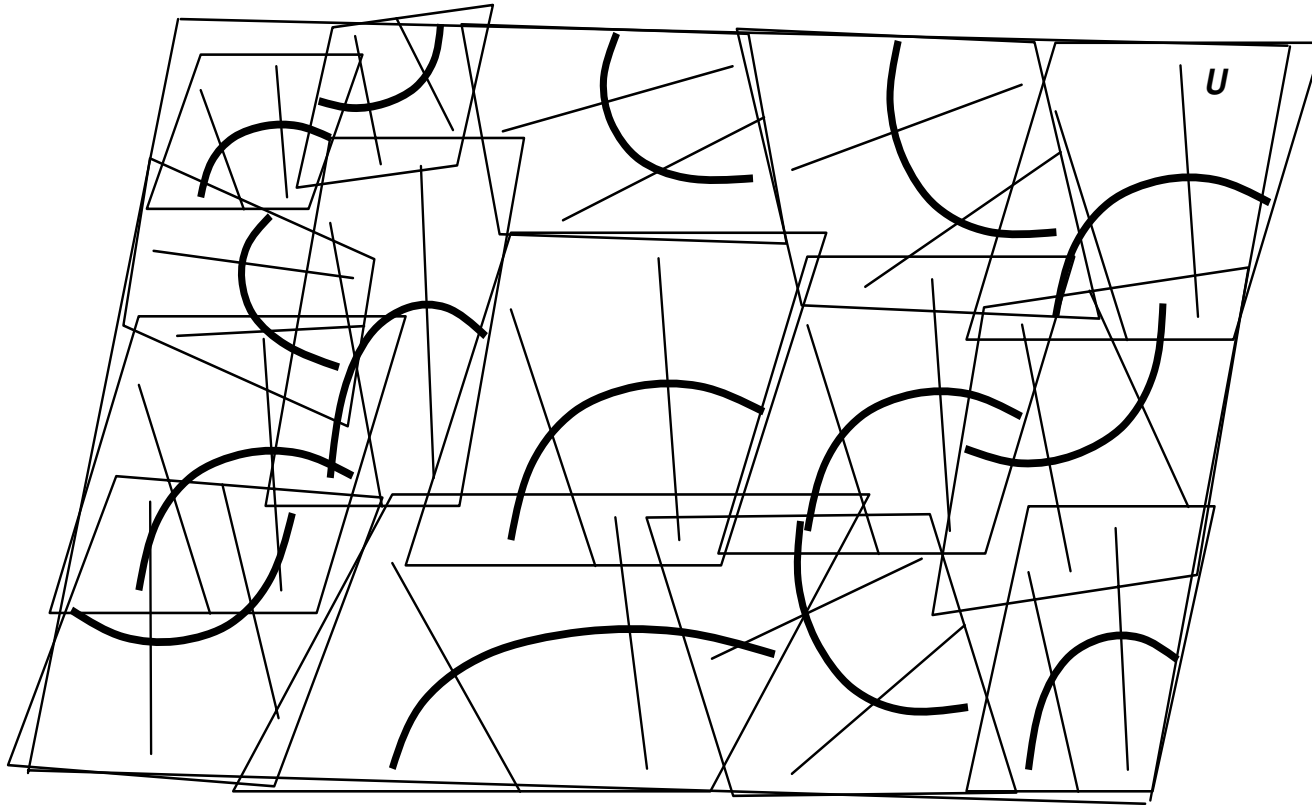
# Life is not easy. I. Bifurcations in fast system



Life is not easy. II. Slow manifold is not connected



# Crazy quilt of Dynamic Decomposition (total)



# Decomposition (along a trajectory)

