



Metabolic Perceptrons for Neural Computing in Cell Free Systems

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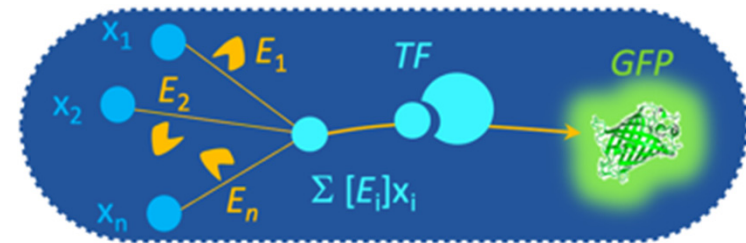
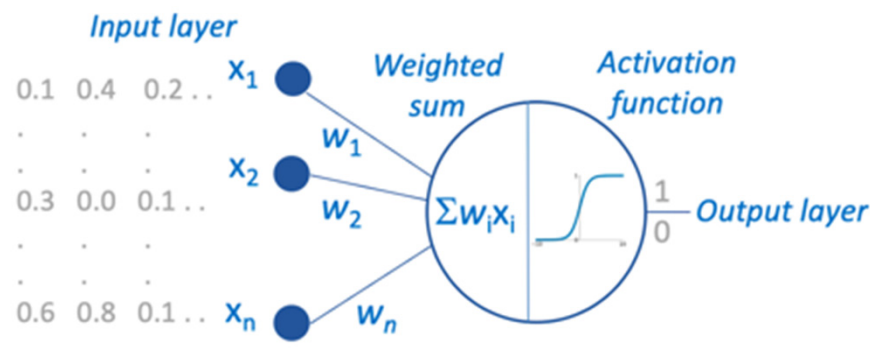
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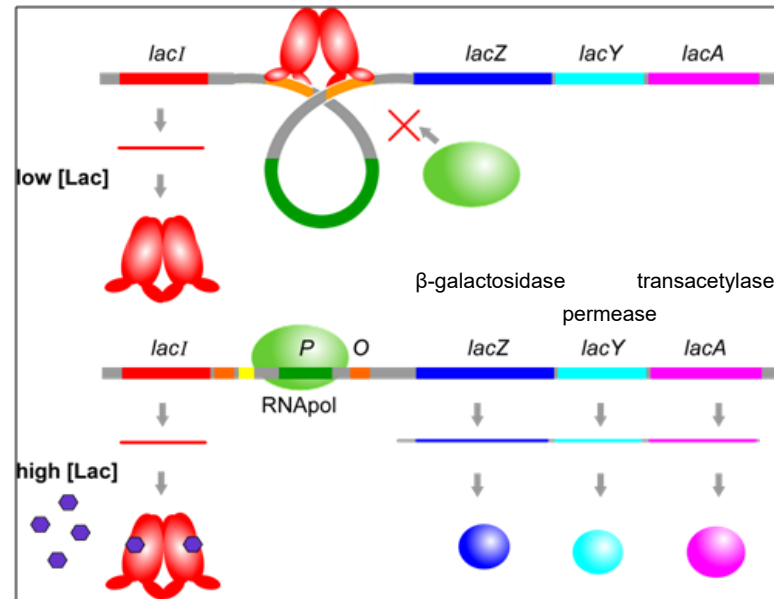
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Cell Free Systems Conference
4 December 2019, Boston

Do biological systems compute?

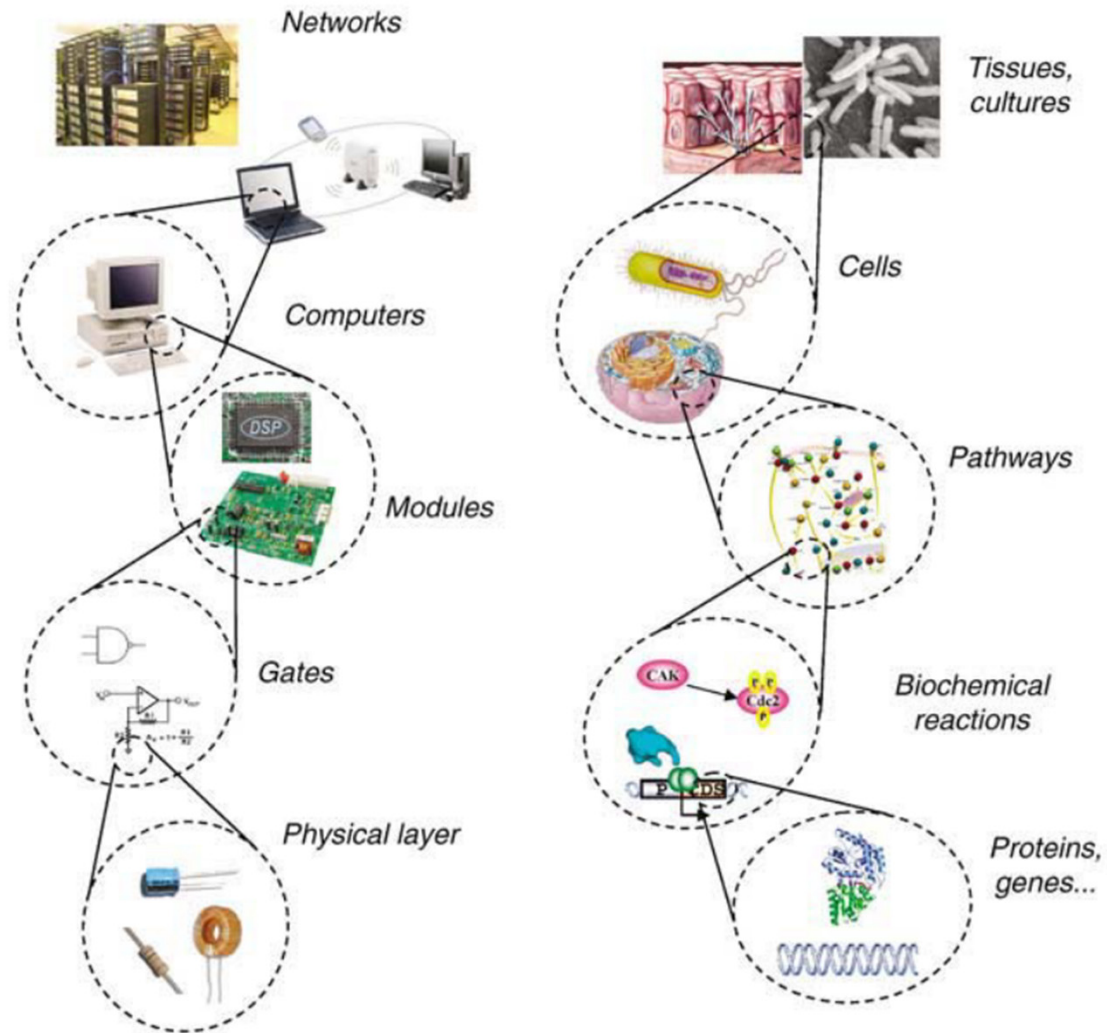


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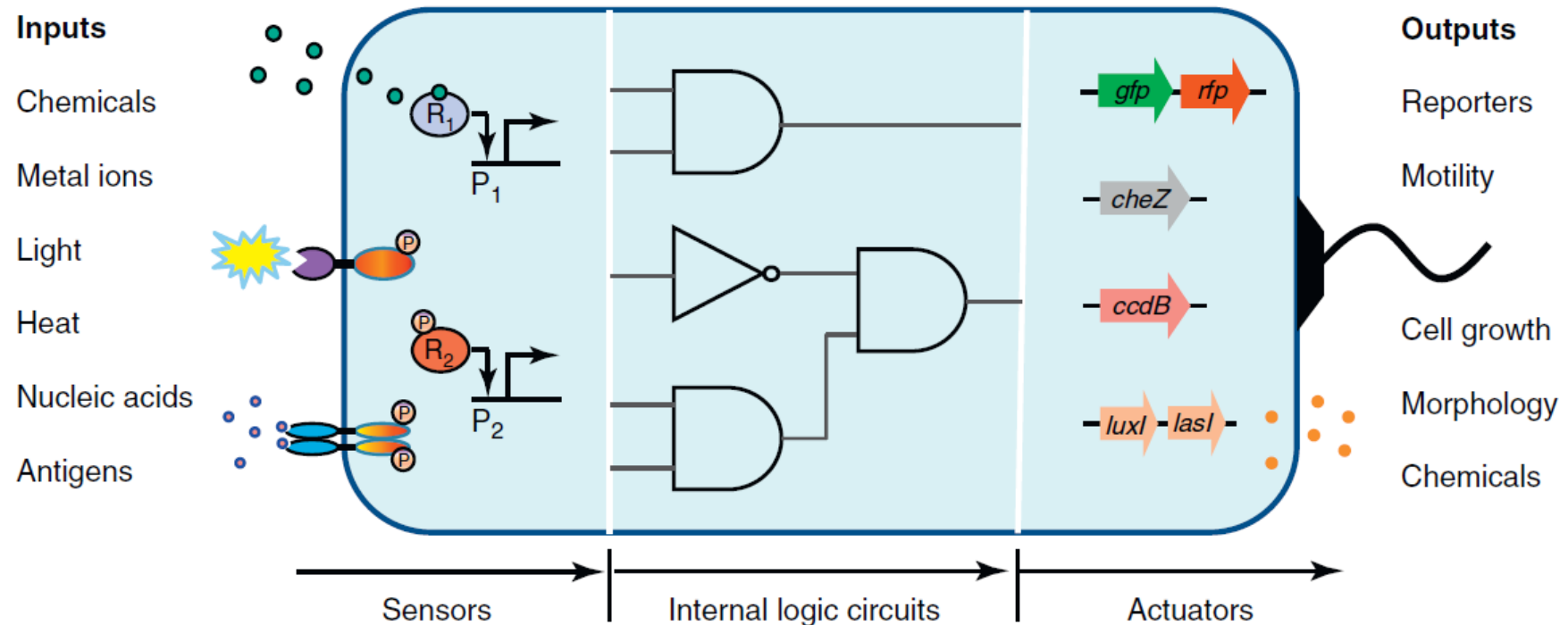
“... Thus the logic of this system is simple in the extreme: the repressor inactivates transcription; it is inactivated in its turn by the inducer. From this double negation results a positive effect, an "affirmation".... The logic of biological regulatory systems abides not by Hegelian laws but, like the workings of computers, by the propositional algebra of George Boole.”

-Jacques Monod. *Chance and Necessity: An Essay on the Nature of Philosophy of Modern Biology*. Collins, London, 1972.

Parallels with the computational “parts” hierarchy

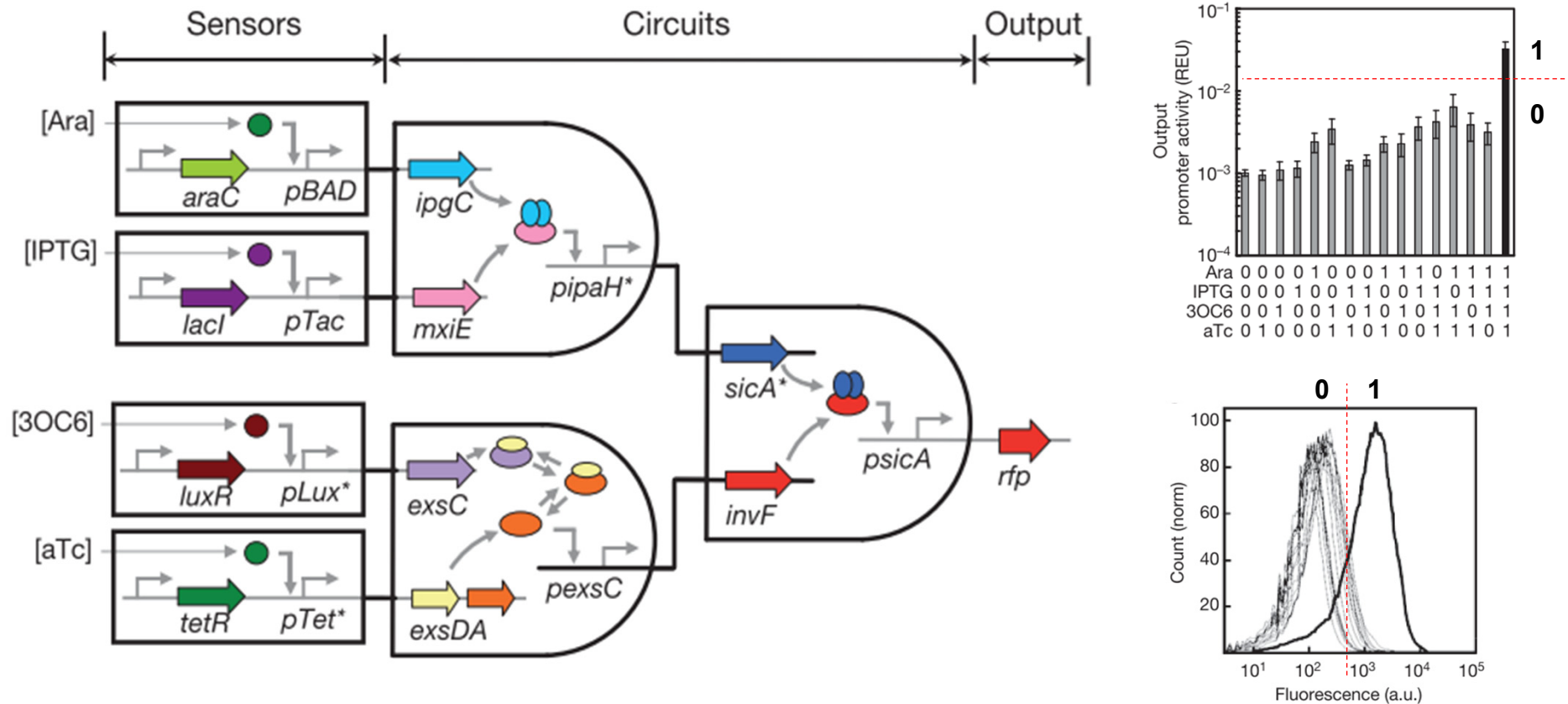


Cells process a diverse range of information



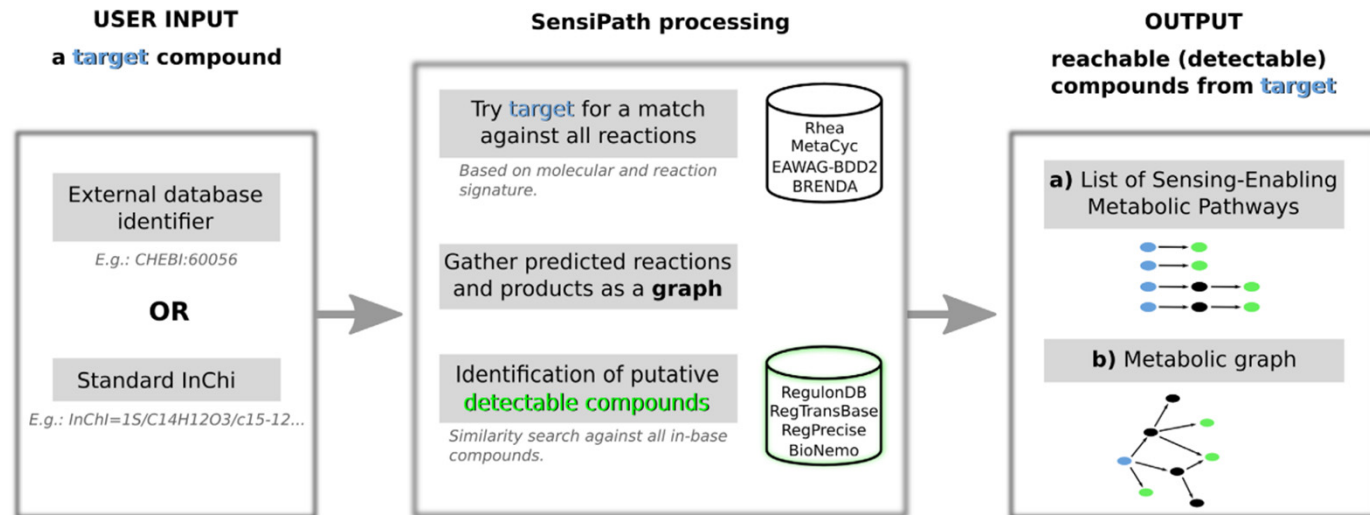
- Cells process a wide variety of extracellular and intracellular information.

Gene expression regulation for digital logic



- Layered transcriptional regulation can be used for multi-input computational logic
- Continuous signals must be “discretized” in order to treat them as digital ‘0’ or ‘1’

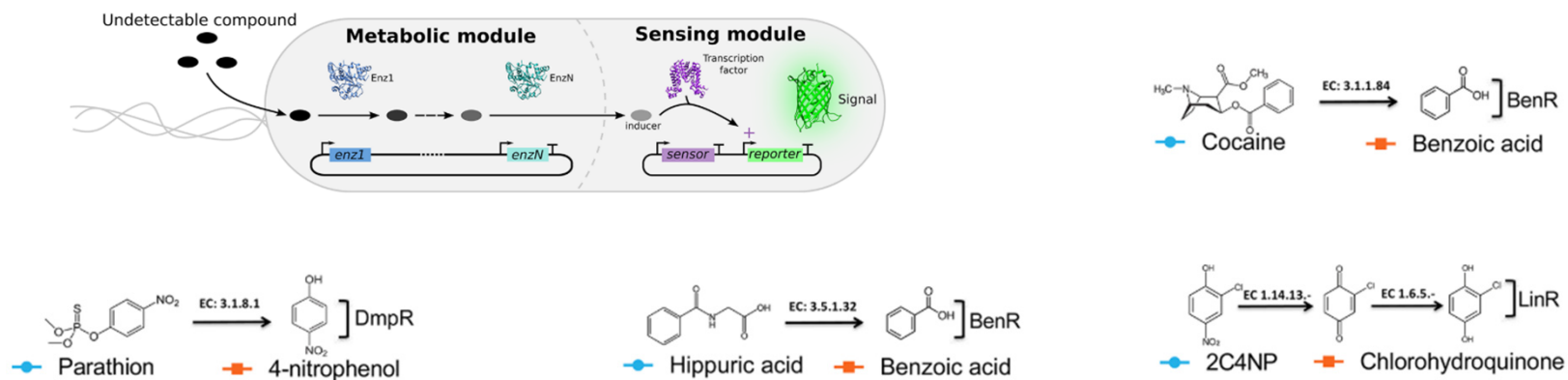
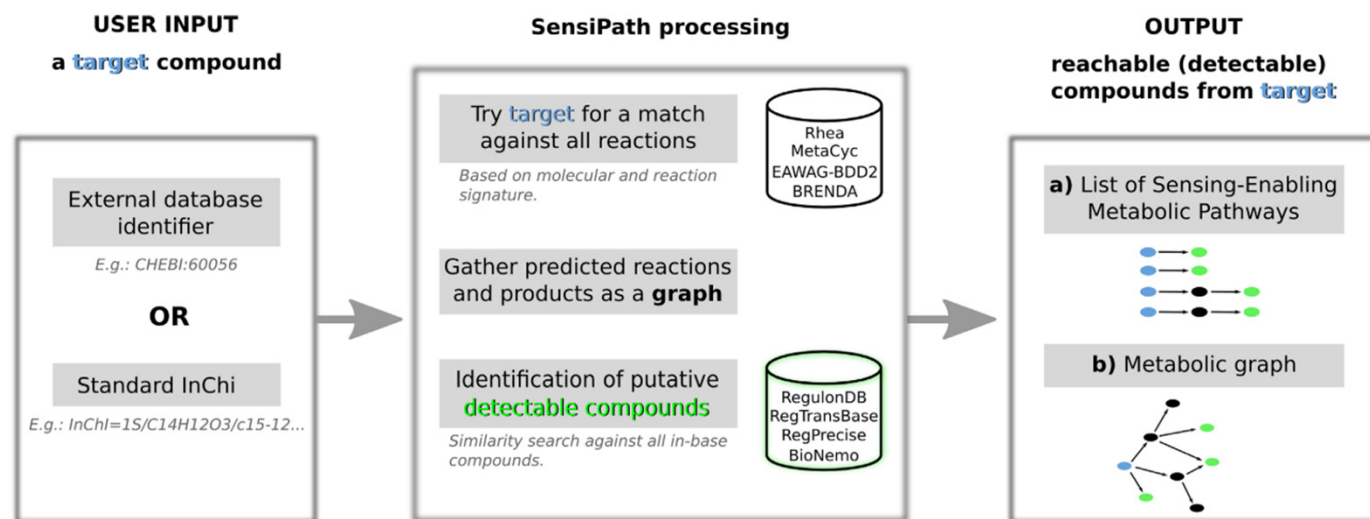
Sensing-enabling metabolic pathways (SEMP)



- Sensing-enabling metabolic pathways enable indirect sensing of molecules for which direct transcriptional regulators are unknown

(Delepine *et al.*, 2016. NAR.

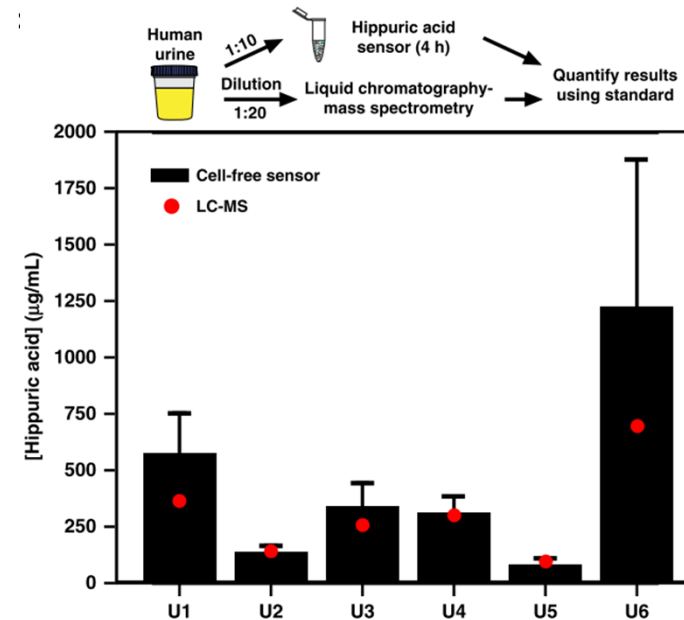
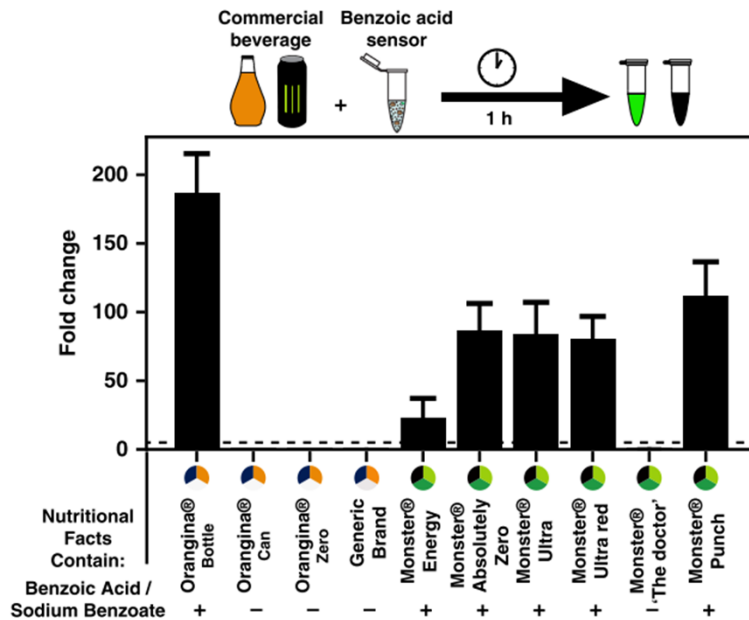
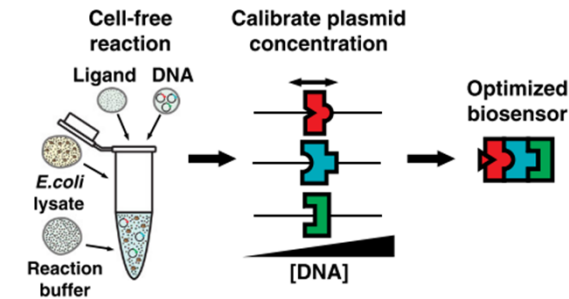
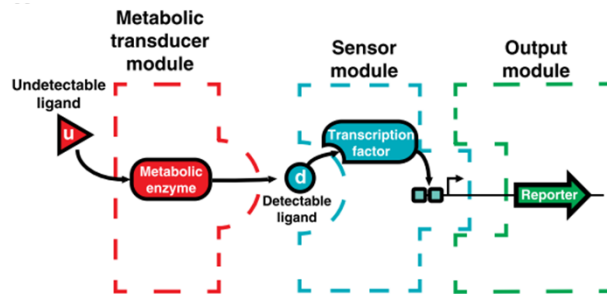
Sensing-enabling metabolic pathways (SEMP)



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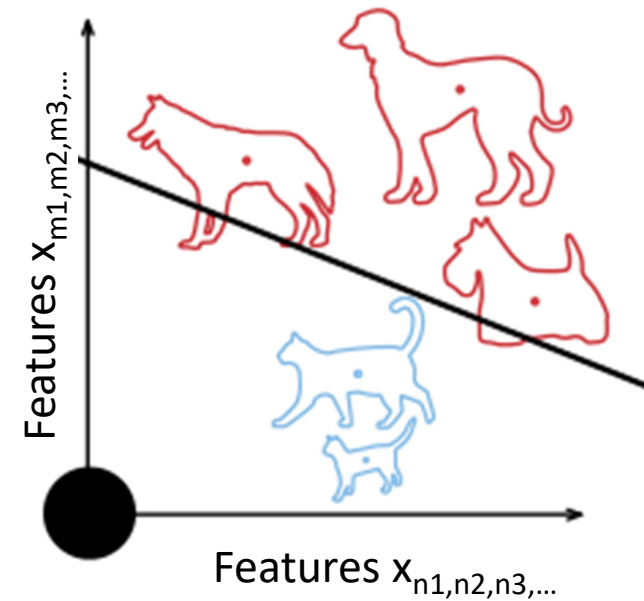
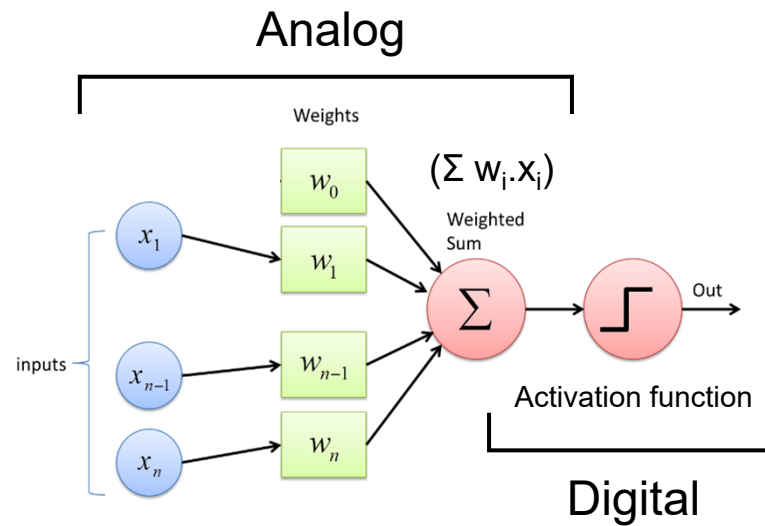
Sensing-enabling metabolic pathways in Cell Free Systems



- Metabolic “transducers” convert undetectable molecules into a detectable ones, which in turn can be sensed by the “sensors”
- Cell Free Systems allow easier optimization of the biosensing system

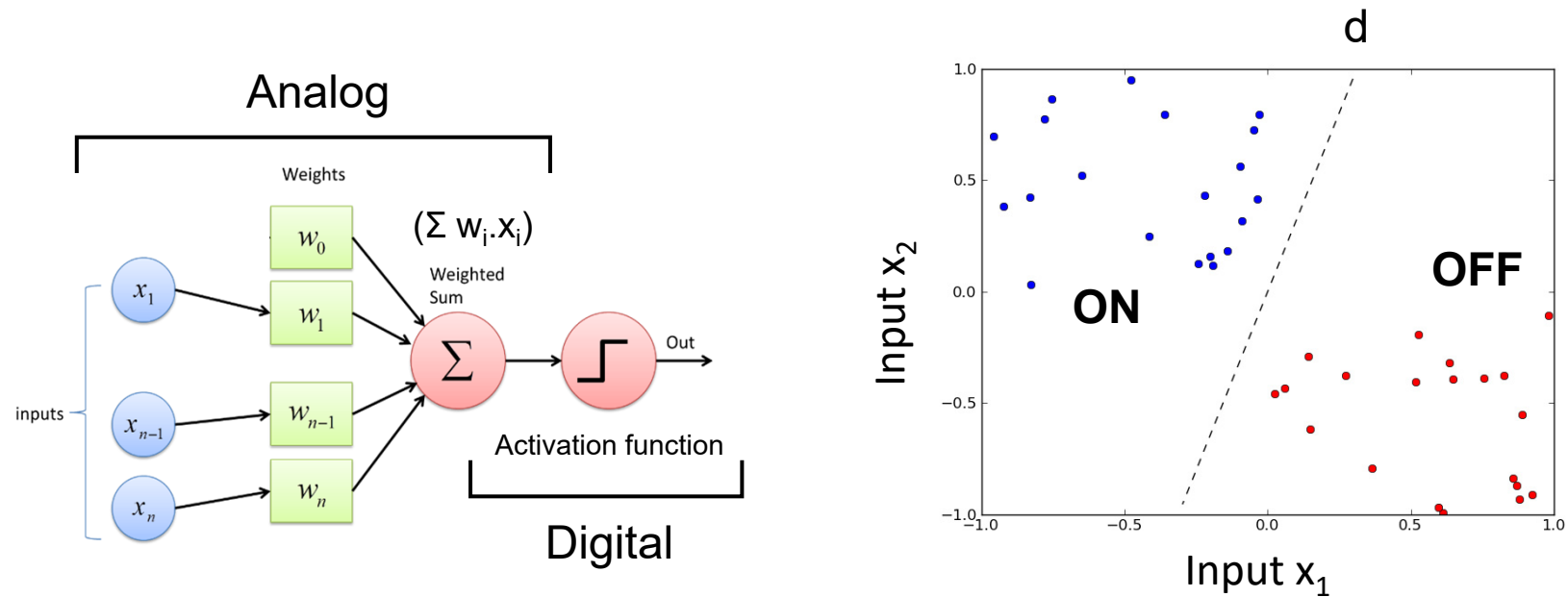
(Voyvodic *et al.*, 2019. Nat. Commun.)

A Perceptron for multi-input sensing



- The perceptron mimics the neuron's ability to process information
- It is a basic block of artificial neural networks

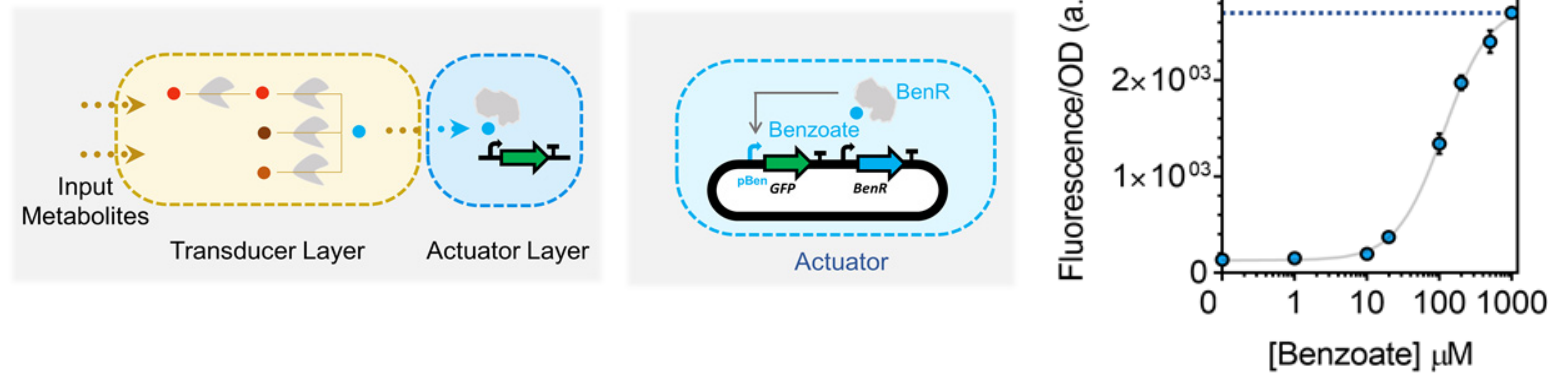
A Perceptron for multi-input sensing



If $(\sum w_i \cdot x_i) > d$, ON

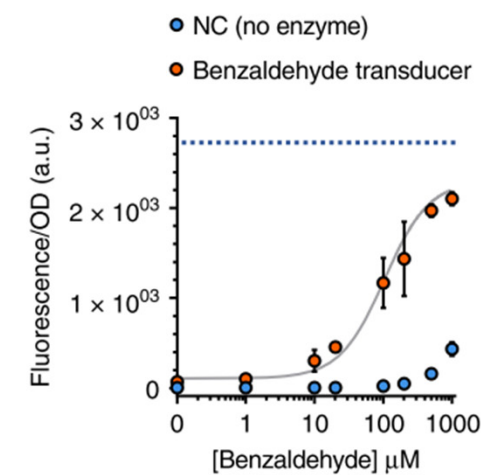
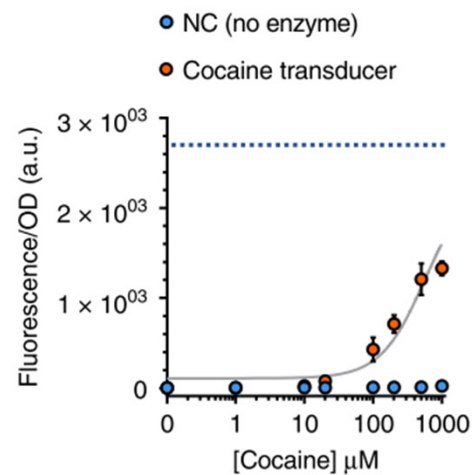
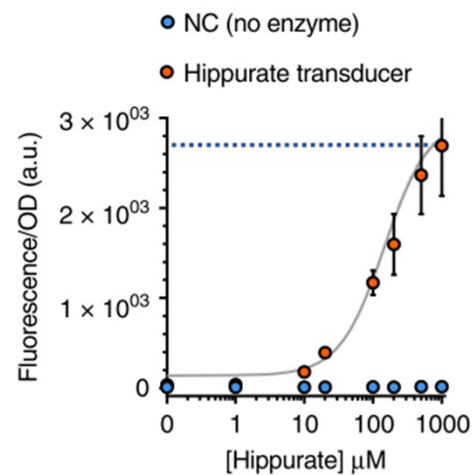
If $(\sum w_i \cdot x_i) \leq d$, OFF

Characterizing and modeling the benzoate actuator



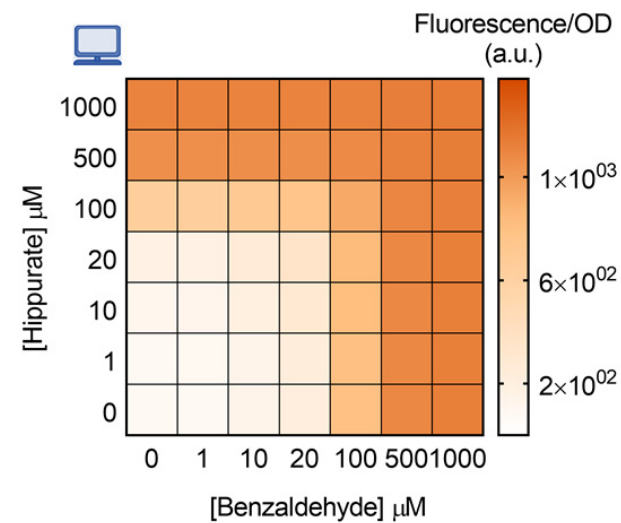
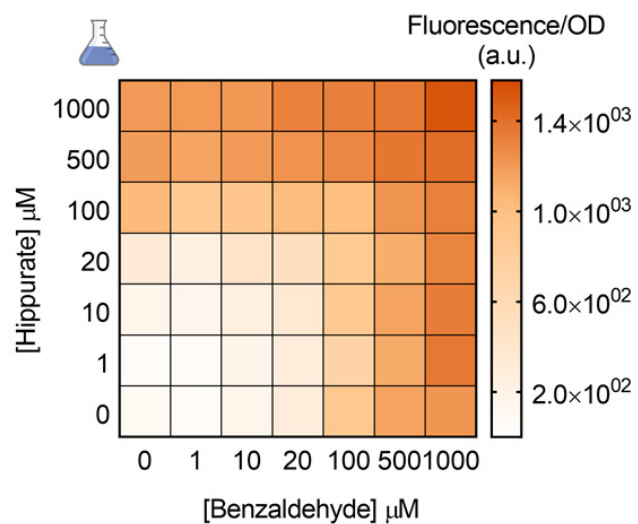
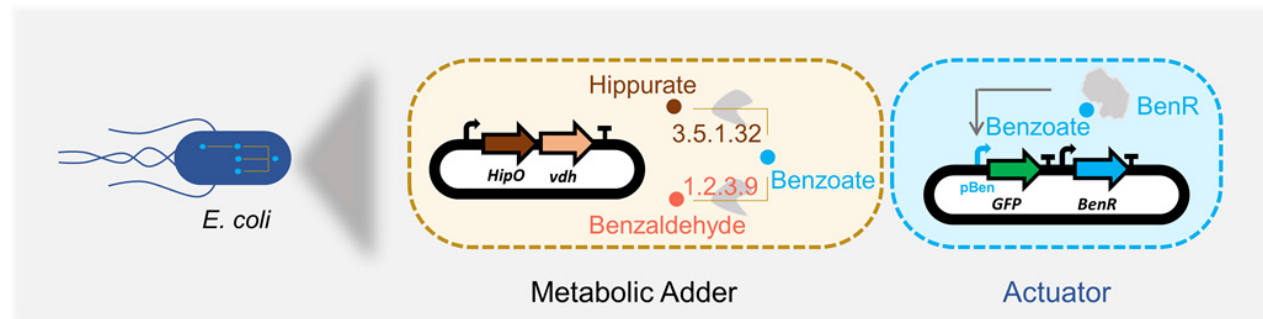
- The benzoate actuator device in *E. coli*

Characterizing and modeling the metabolic transducers



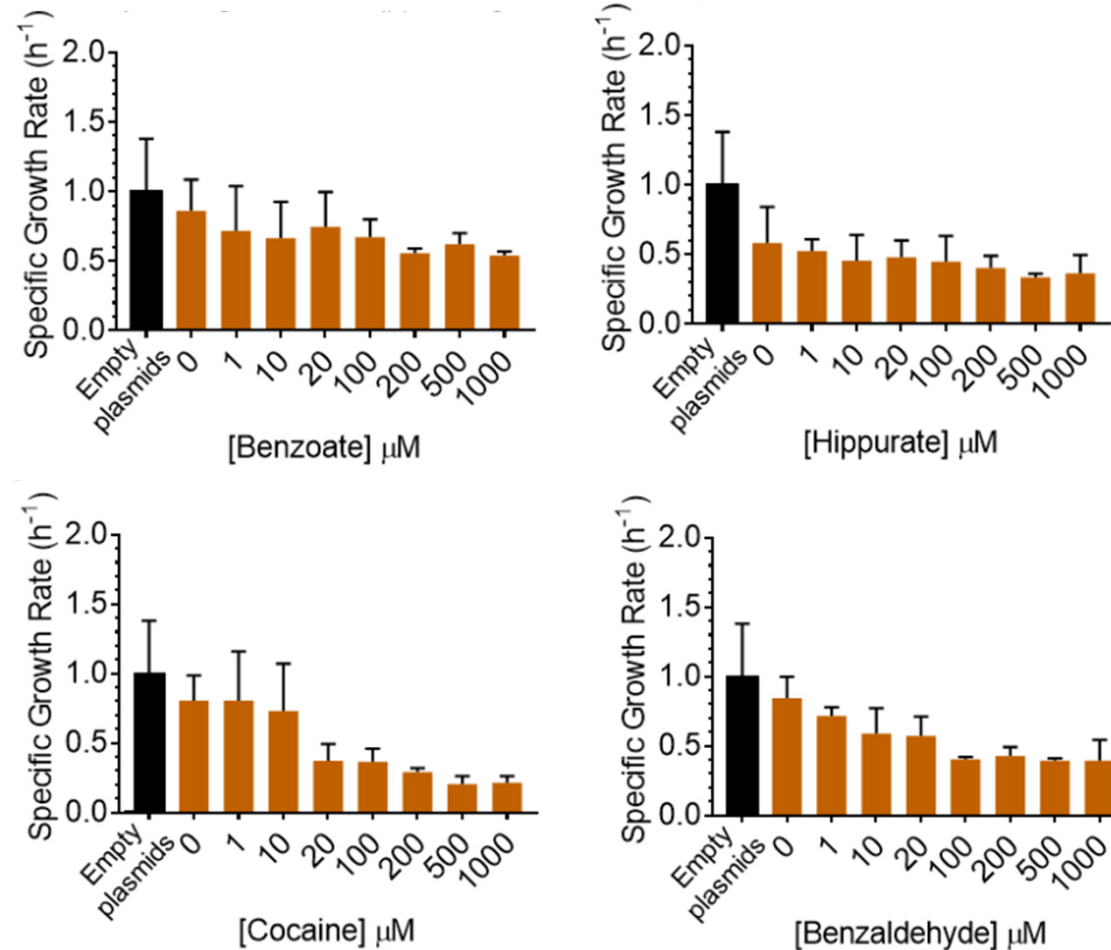
- Three metabolic transducers in *E. coli*

Characterizing and modeling the metabolic adders



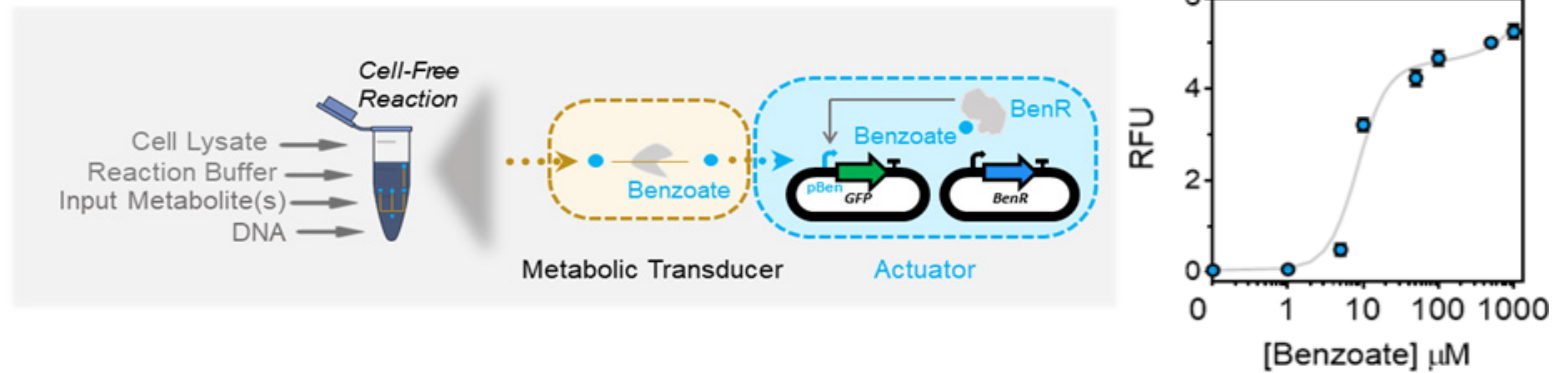
- Metabolic concentration adders in *E. coli*

Effect of input concentrations on *E. coli* growth



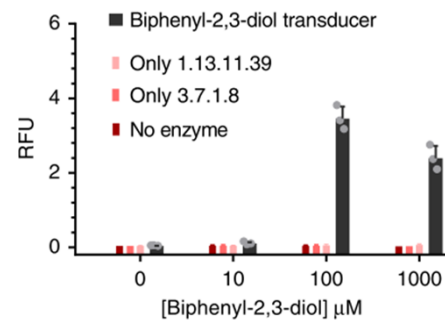
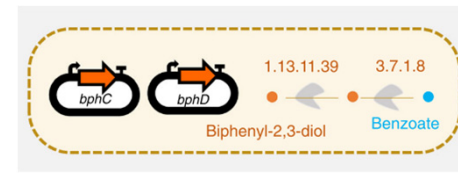
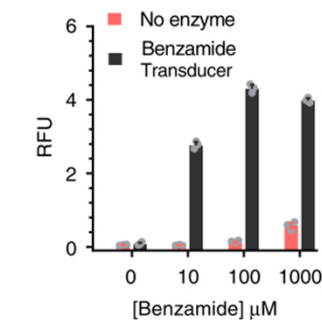
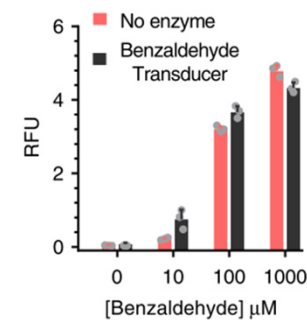
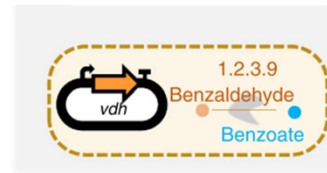
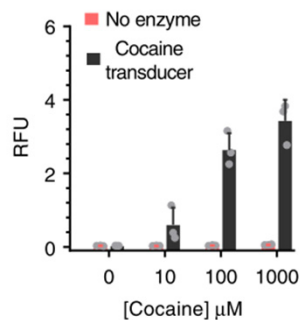
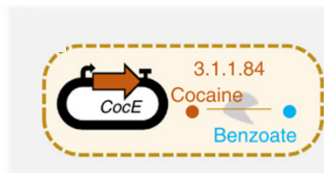
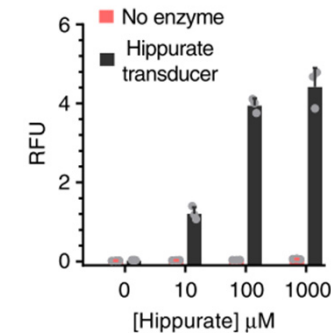
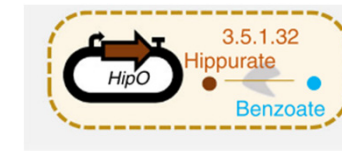
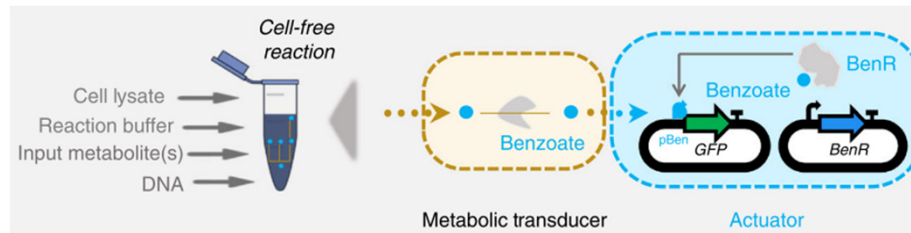
- Higher concentrations of input and intermediate molecules reduce growth in *E. coli*

Characterizing and modeling the benzoate actuator



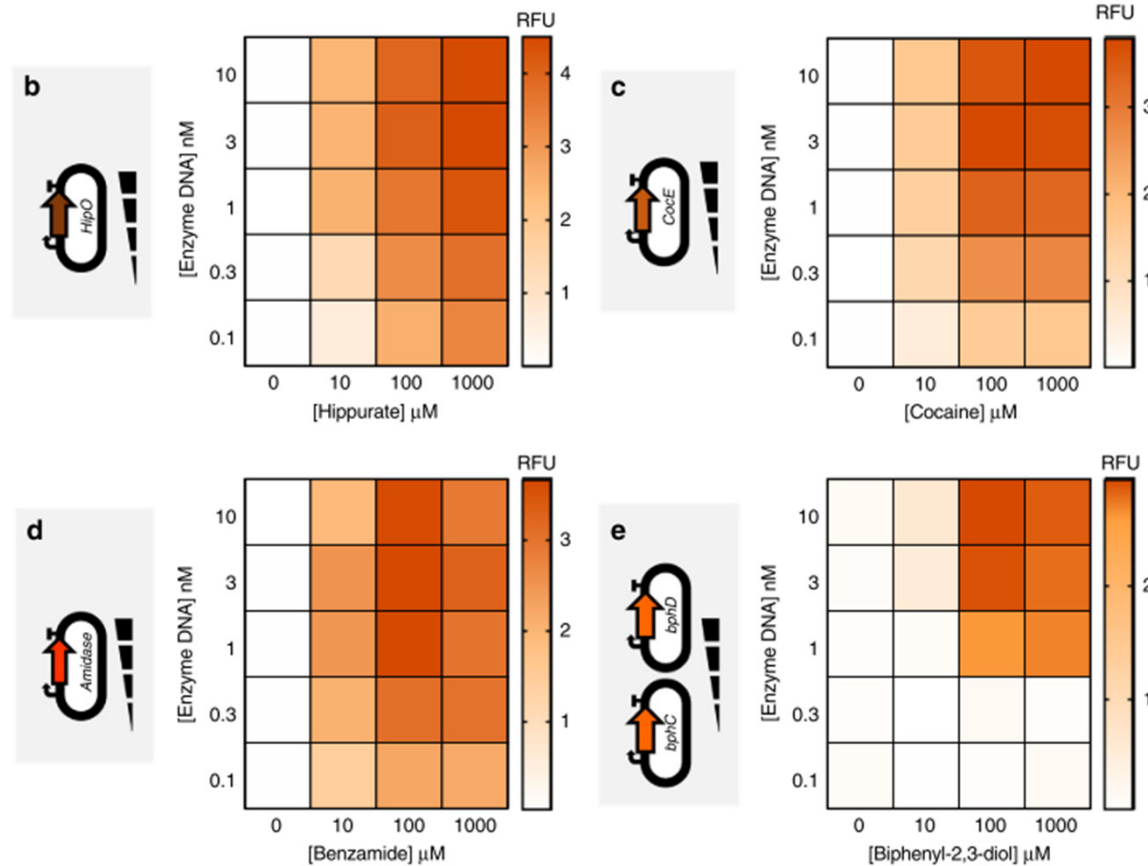
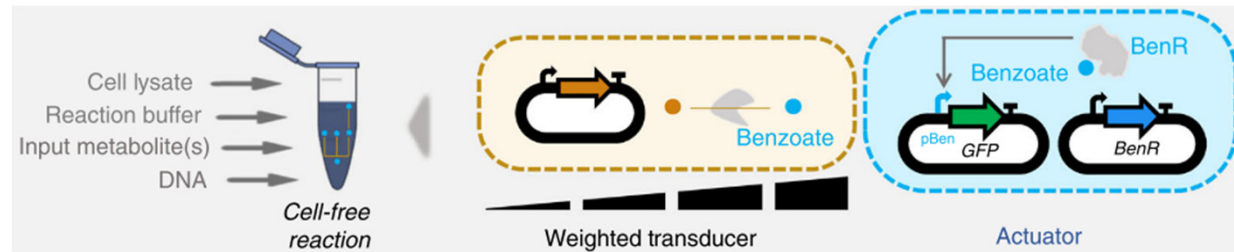
- The benzoate actuator device in Cell Free System

Characterizing and modeling the metabolic transducers



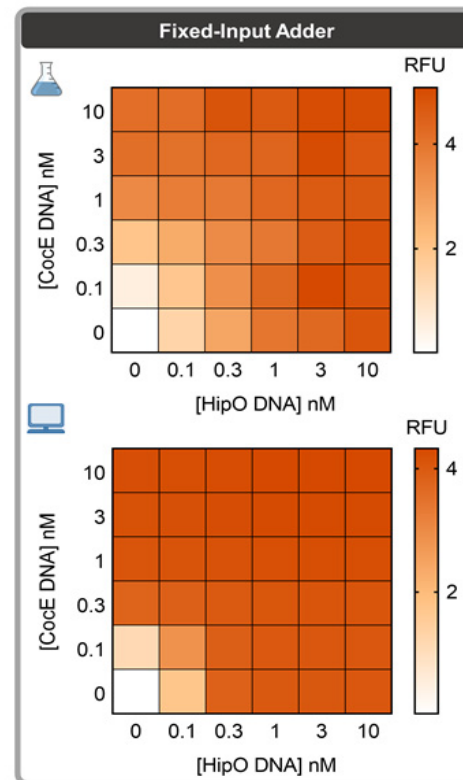
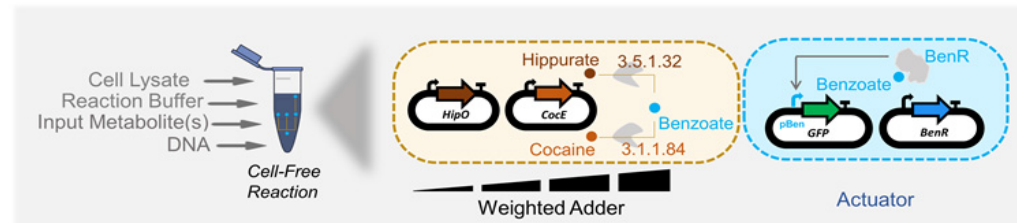
- Five metabolic transducers in Cell Free System

Building the Cell Free weighted transducers



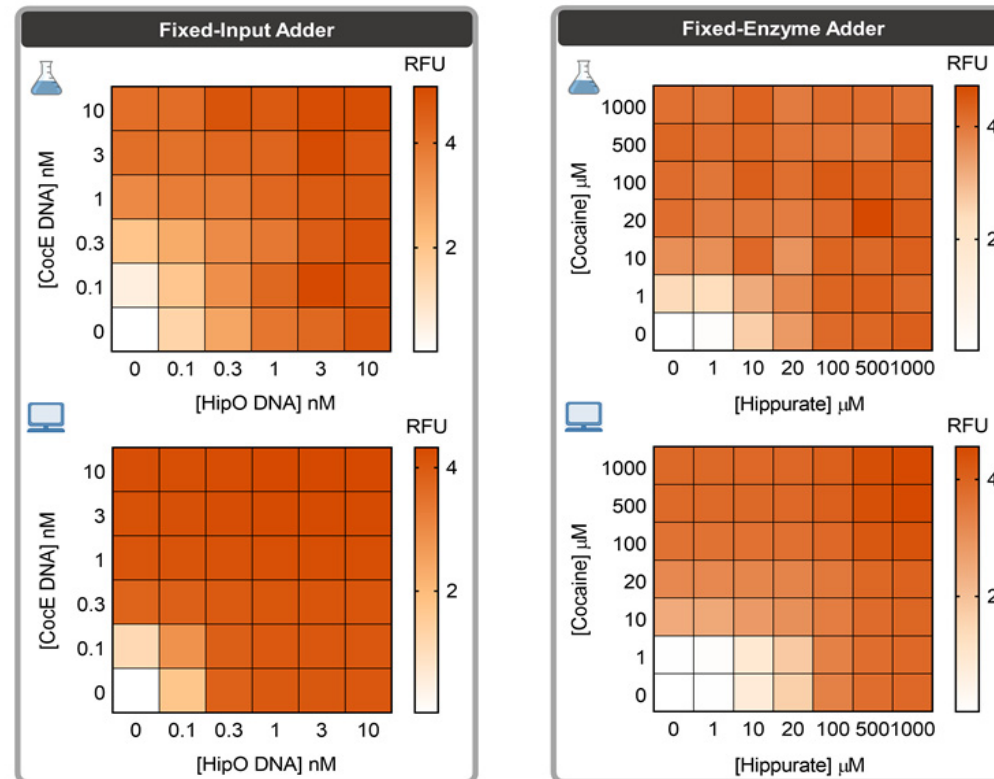
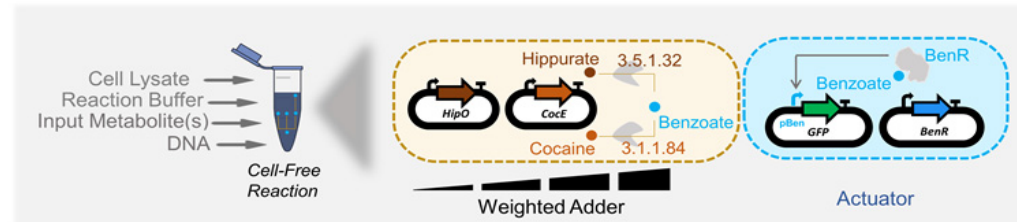
- The weight of a traducer can be tuned by changing the amount of transducer DNA added

Characterizing and modeling the metabolic adders



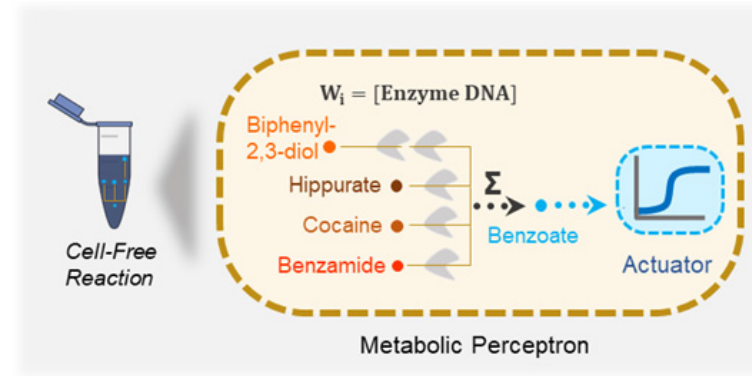
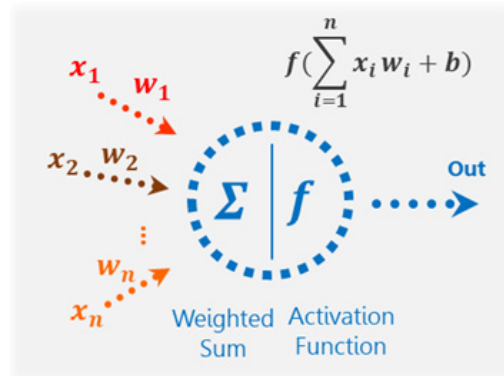
- Metabolic concentration weighted adders in Cell Free System

Characterizing and modeling the metabolic adders

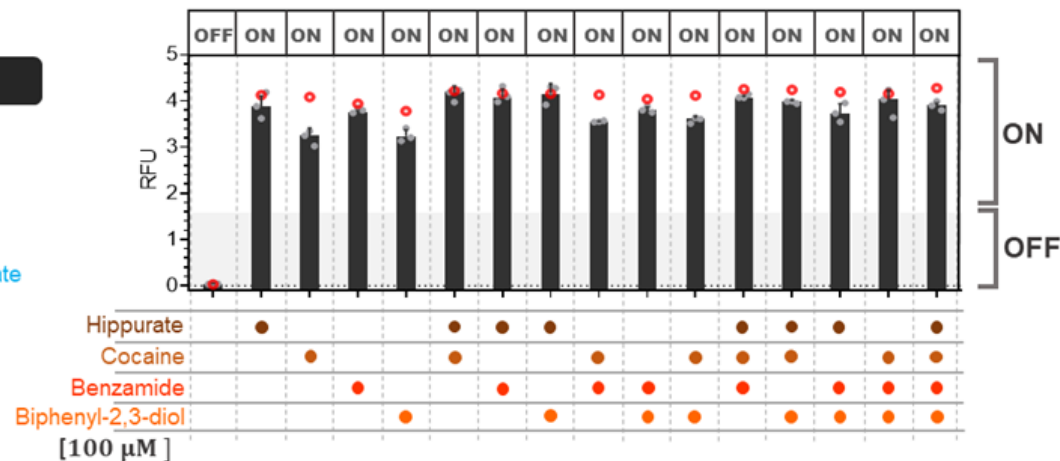
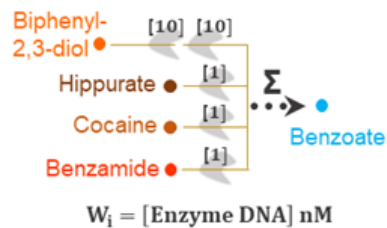


- Metabolic concentration weighted adders in Cell Free System

The Metabolic Perceptron: Classifier 1

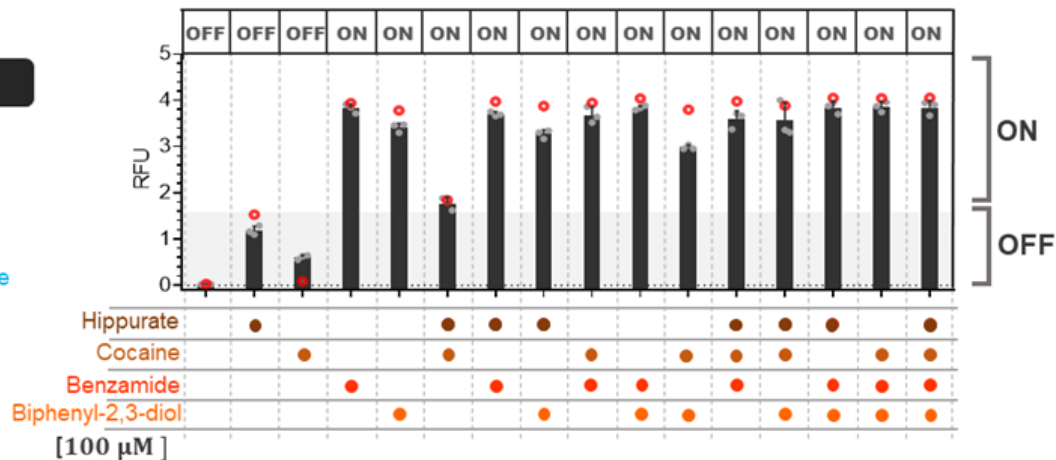
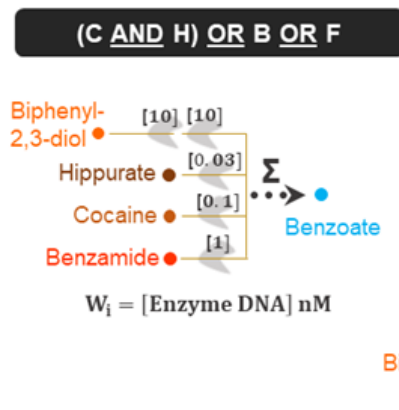
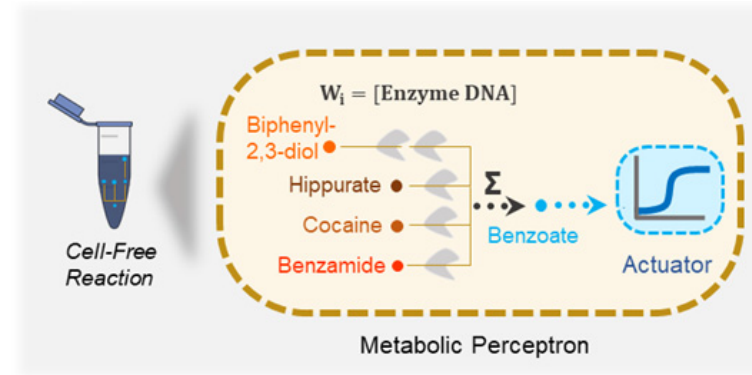
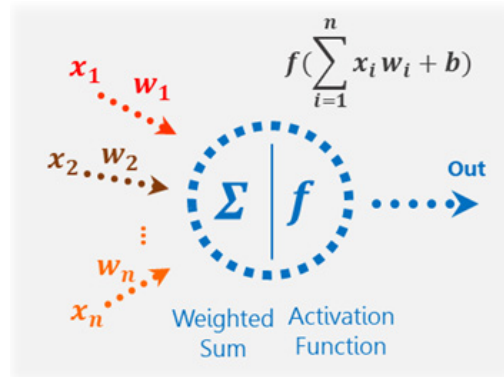


Full OR Classifier



- Model based construction and validation of a binary classifiers
- The same metabolic circuit has different behaviors when used with different weights

The Metabolic Perceptron: Classifier 2

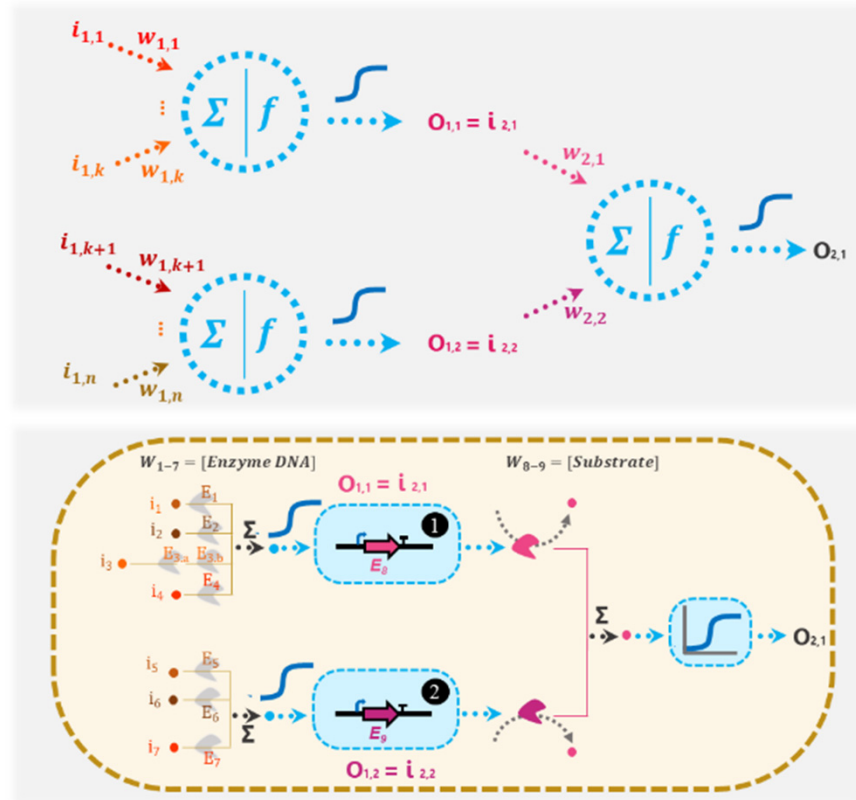


- Model based construction and validation of a binary classifiers
- The same metabolic circuit has different behaviors when used with different weights

Future Perspectives

Metabolites
Nucleic acids (DNA, RNA)
Proteins

Multiple classes of input molecules



- By combining different types of inputs, diagnostic approaches can be dramatically improved
- Multi-layer metabolic perceptrons can classify complex patterns of metabolite concentrations in analytical samples

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Thank You

Questions Welcome