# B.
# Pattern Formation



## Differentiation & Pattern Formation

- A central problem in development: How do cells differentiate to fulfill different purposes?
- How do complex systems generate spatial & temporal structure?
- CAs are natural models of intercellular communication

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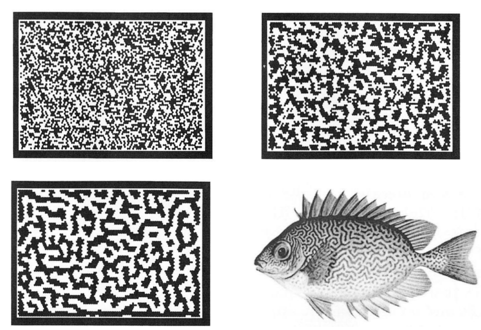
## Plecostomus

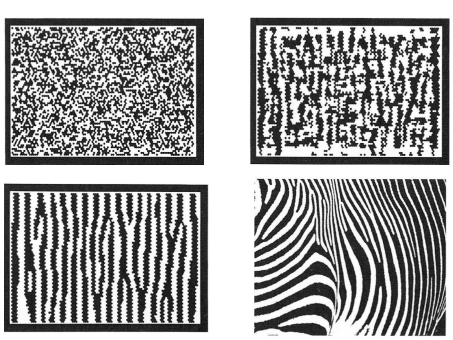


## Vermiculated Rabbit Fish



 figs. from Camazine & al.: *Self-Org. Biol. Sys.* 

## Zebra

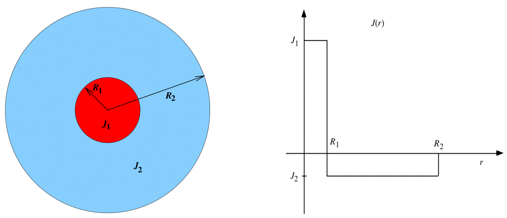


 figs. from Camazine & al.: *Self-Org. Biol. Sys.* 

## Activation & Inhibition in Pattern Formation

- Color patterns typically have a characteristic length scale
- Independent of cell size and animal size
- Achieved by:
  – short-range activation ⇒ local uniformity
  – long-range inhibition ⇒ separation

## Interaction Parameters




- $R_1$ and $R_2$ are the interaction ranges
- $J_1$ and $J_2$ are the interaction strengths

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## CA Activation/Inhibition Model

- Let states $s_i \in \{-1, +1\}$
- and $h$ be a bias parameter
- and $r_{ij}$ be the distance between cells $i$ and $j$
- Then the state update rule is:

$$s_i(t+1) = \text{sign}\left[h + J_1 \sum_{r_{ij} < R_1} s_j(t) + J_2 \sum_{R_1 \le r_{ij} < R_2} s_j(t)\right]$$

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## Demonstration of NetLogo Program for Activation/Inhibition Pattern Formation

RunAICA.nlogo

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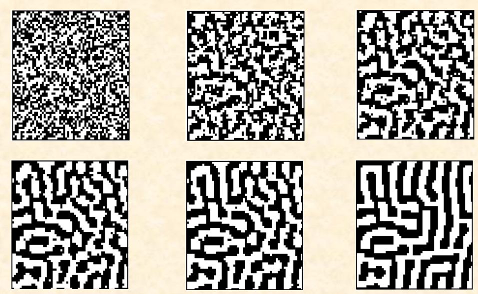
## Example

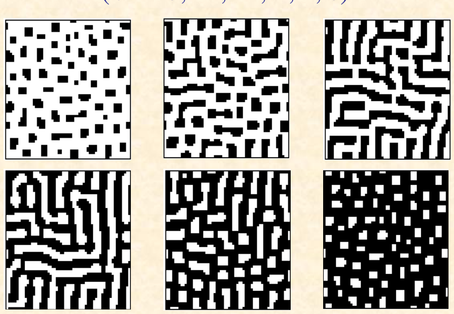
($R_1$=1, $R_2$=6, $J_1$=1, $J_2$=–0.1, $h$=0)



1/30/17 figs. from Bar-Yam 10

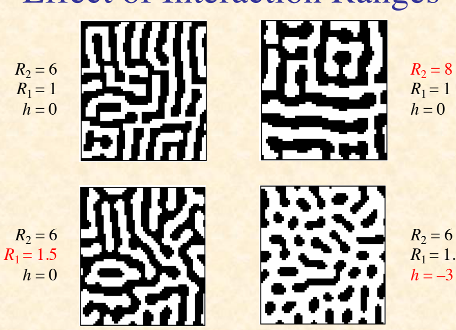
## Effect of Bias

($h$ = –6, –3, –1; 1, 3, 6)



1/30/17 figs. from Bar-Yam 11

## Effect of Interaction Ranges




1/30/17 figs. from Bar-Yam 12

## Differential Interaction Ranges

- How can a system using strictly local interactions discriminate between states at long and short range?
- E.g. cells in developing organism
- Can use two different *morphogens* diffusing at two different rates
  - – activator diffuses slowly (short range)
  - – inhibitor diffuses rapidly (long range)

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## Digression on Diffusion

- Simple 2-D diffusion equation:

$$\dot{A}(x,y) = D\nabla^2 A(x,y)$$

- Recall the 2-D Laplacian:

$$\nabla^2 A(x,y) = \frac{\partial^2 A(x,y)}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 A(x,y)}{\partial y^2}$$

- The Laplacian (like 2nd derivative) is:
  - – positive in a local minimum
  - – negative in a local maximum

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## Reaction-Diffusion System

diffusion

$$\frac{\partial A}{\partial t} = D_A \nabla^2 A + f_A(A,I)$$
$$\frac{\partial I}{\partial t} = D_I \nabla^2 I + f_I(A,I)$$

reaction

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t}\begin{pmatrix} A \\ I \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} D_A & 0 \\ 0 & D_I \end{pmatrix}\begin{pmatrix} \nabla^2 A \\ \nabla^2 I \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} f_A(A,I) \\ f_I(A,I) \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\dot{\mathbf{c}} = \mathbf{D}\nabla^2\mathbf{c} + \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{c}), \text{ where } \mathbf{c} = \begin{pmatrix} A \\ I \end{pmatrix}$$

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## General Reaction-Diffusion System

$$\frac{\partial c_i}{\partial t} = \sum_\alpha k_\alpha \nu_{i\alpha}\left(\prod_{k=1}^{n} c_k^{m_{k\alpha}}\right) - \nabla \cdot \mathbf{j}_i$$

where $\mathbf{j}_i = \vec{\mu}_i c_i - \mathbf{div}\ \mathbf{D}_i c_i$ (flux)

where $k_\alpha =$ rate constant for reaction $\alpha$
and $\nu_{i\alpha} =$ stoichiometric coefficient
and $m_{k\alpha} =$ a non-negative integer
and $\vec{\mu}_i =$ drift vector
and $\mathbf{D}_i =$ diffusivity matrix

where $\mathbf{div}\ \mathbf{D}c = \sum_j \mathbf{e}_j \sum_k D_{jk}\, \partial c / \partial x_k$

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## Framework for Complexity

- change = source terms + transport terms
- source terms = local coupling
  = interactions local to a small region
- transport terms = spatial coupling
  = interactions with contiguous regions
  = advection + diffusion
  - – advection: non-dissipative, time-reversible
  - – diffusion: dissipative, irreversible

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## NetLogo Simulation of Reaction-Diffusion System

1. Diffuse activator in X and Y directions
2. Diffuse inhibitor in X and Y directions
3. Each patch performs:

stimulation = bias + activator – inhibitor + noise
if stimulation > 0 then
    set activator and inhibitor to 100
else
    set activator and inhibitor to 0

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# Demonstration of NetLogo Program for Activator/Inhibitor Pattern Formation

Run Pattern.nlogo



## Continuous-time Activator-Inhibitor System

- Activator *A* and inhibitor *I* may diffuse at different rates in *x* and *y* directions
- Cell becomes more active if activator + bias exceeds inhibitor
- Otherwise, less active
- *A* and *I* are limited to [0, 100] (depletion/saturation)

$$\frac{\partial A}{\partial t} = d_{\mathrm{Ax}} \frac{\partial^2 A}{\partial x^2} + d_{\mathrm{Ay}} \frac{\partial^2 A}{\partial y^2} + k_{\mathrm{A}}(A + B - I)$$

$$\frac{\partial I}{\partial t} = d_{\mathrm{Ix}} \frac{\partial^2 I}{\partial x^2} + d_{\mathrm{Iy}} \frac{\partial^2 I}{\partial y^2} + k_{\mathrm{I}}(A + B - I)$$



# Demonstration of NetLogo Program for Activator/Inhibitor Pattern Formation with Continuous State Change

Run Activator-Inhibitor.nlogo



## Turing Patterns

- Alan Turing studied the mathematics of reaction-diffusion systems
- Turing, A. (1952). The chemical basis of morphogenesis. *Philosophical Transactions of the Royal Society* **B 237**: 37–72.
- The resulting patterns are known as *Turing patterns*



## Observations

- With local activation and lateral inhibition
- And with a random initial state
- You can expect to get Turing patterns
- These are stationary states (dynamic equilibria)
- Macroscopically, Class I behavior
  – Microscopically, may be class III



## A Key Element of Self-Organization

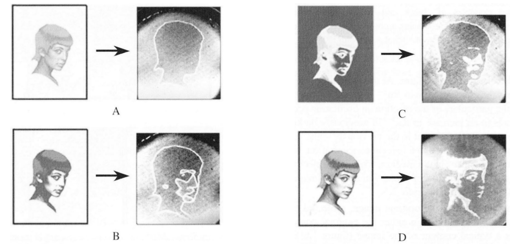
- Activation vs. Inhibition
- Cooperation vs. Competition
- Amplification vs. Stabilization
- Growth vs. Limit
- Positive Feedback vs. Negative Feedback
  – Positive feedback creates
  – Negative feedback shapes

## Reaction-Diffusion Computing

- Has been used for image processing
  - diffusion ⇒ noise filtering
  - reaction ⇒ contrast enhancement
- Depending on parameters, RD computing can:
  - restore broken contours
  - detect edges
  - improve contrast



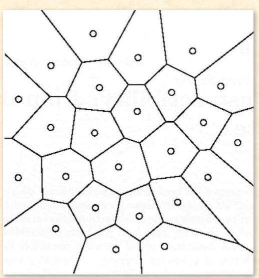
## Image Processing in BZ Medium




- (A) boundary detection, (B) contour enhancement, (C) shape enhancement, (D) feature enhancement



## Voronoi Diagrams



- Given a set of generating points:
- Construct a polygon around each generating point of set, so all points in a polygon are closer to its generating point than to any other generating points.

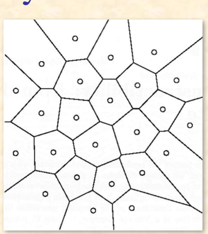


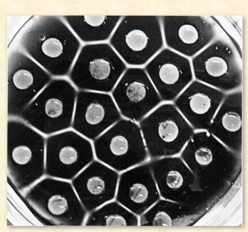
## Some Uses of Voronoi Diagrams

- Collision-free path planning
- Determination of service areas for power substations
- Nearest-neighbor pattern classification
- Determination of largest empty figure



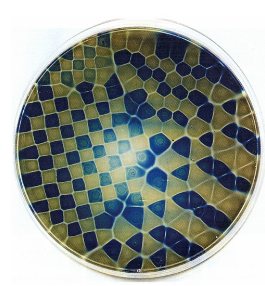
## Computation of Voronoi Diagram by Reaction-Diffusion Processor



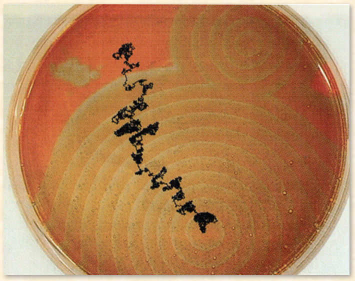




## Mixed Cell Voronoi Diagram

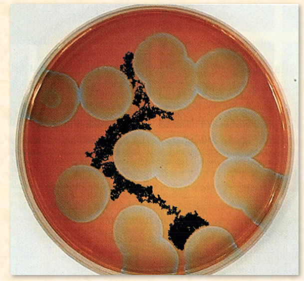


## Path Planning via BZ medium: No Obstacles



1/30/17 Image < Adamatzky & al., *Reaction-Diffusion Computers* 31

## Path Planning via BZ medium: Circular Obstacles



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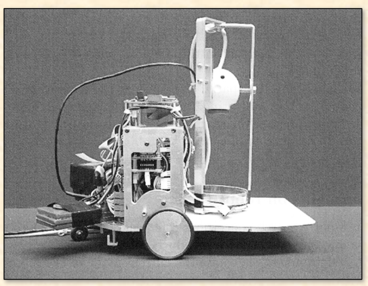
## Mobile Robot with Onboard Chemical Reactor



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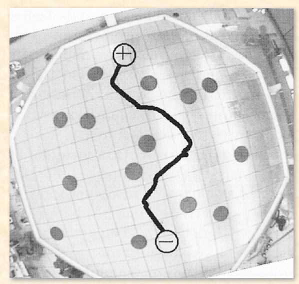
## Actual Path: Pd Processor



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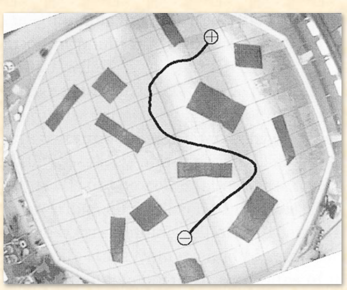
## Actual Path: Pd Processor



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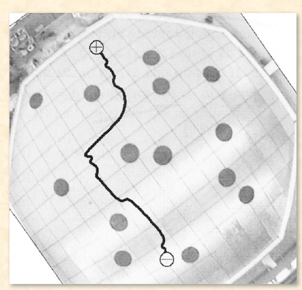
## Actual Path: BZ Processor



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## Bibliography for Reaction-Diffusion Computing


1. Adamatzky, Adam. *Computing in Nonlinear Media and Automata Collectives*. Bristol: Inst. of Physics Publ., 2001.
2. Adamatzky, Adam, De Lacy Costello, Ben, & Asai, Tetsuya. *Reaction Diffusion Computers*. Amsterdam: Elsevier, 2005.


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