TOPOLOGICAL DATA ANALYSIS FOR BIOLOGICAL RING CHANNELS

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MOTIVATION

- Cells use many channels to communicate, each with different functions.
- Ring channels play critical roles in oogenesis, wound healing, and cell division.



MOTIVATION

- Often, ring channels maintain precise diameters over a large time scale.
- Non-muscle myosin motor proteins are often "in charge" of creating appropriate constriction of the ring.



SPECIFIC MOTIVATION





Adriana Dawes OSU

In the worm C. elegans: ring channels (made by actin) allow for nutrient exchange in development.

Coffman et al, 2016

THE QUESTION



Two types of motors, believed to function similarly, are involved in ring channel dynamics.

Experiments show that they antagonize each other with respect to cellularization.

Coffman et al, 2016

GOALS

- Investigate ring formation using agent-based models for actin filaments and motors.
- Identify potential mechanistic differences between motors.





1. AGENT-BASED MODELING AND SIMULATION

- Accounts for dynamics and molecular transport of chemical species.
- Diffusion and active transport
 are modeled as stochastic jumps
 between compartments.
- Is based on energy minimization.



Medyan (Papoian Lab)

DATA ANALYSIS MEASURES







actinmyosincross-filamentmotorlinker

Riley Juenemann, Tulane University Scott McKinley, Tulane University

Contractility, alignment, filament length distributions

2. DETECTING RING STRUCTURE





Chad Topaz, Williams College

Inspiration: Crocker plots (Topaz, Zieglemeier, Halverson)

Topaz, Zieglemeier, Halverson, 2015









Propose a method for connecting pairs through time.
 Extract the most significant Betti 1 path.



With Riley Juenemann, Adriana Dawes, and Scott McKinley (in preparation)

VISUALIZATION OF SIGNIFICANT PATH (RING STRUCTURE) EMERGENCE



With Riley Juenemann, Adriana Dawes, and Scott McKinley (in preparation)

EXPLORE PARAMETER DIFFERENCES: ON-RATE



Small on-rate

Large on-rate

EXPLORE PARAMETER DIFFERENCES: ON-RATE

Contractility





With Riley Juenemann, Adriana Dawes, and Scott McKinley (in preparation)

DETECTING RING STRUCTURE



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FUTURE WORK

- Modeling and simulation of ring formation and maintenance with realistic biological mechanisms.
- Exploration of parameters that may distinguish between motors.
- Stability? Rigorous measure of significant paths?



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