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# State estimation in endocrine systems with pulsatile hormone secretion

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# Outline

- Vocabulary
- Endocrine regulation
- Mathematical model
- Properties of the mathematical model
- State estimation
- Conclusions



# Why going biomedical?

- New challenging control and estimation problems
- Multifactorial diseases (diabetes, cancer, heart disease, epilepsy, etc.) need a system approach and medicine are transformed into "precision engineering"
- Abundance of experimental data
- High societal impact

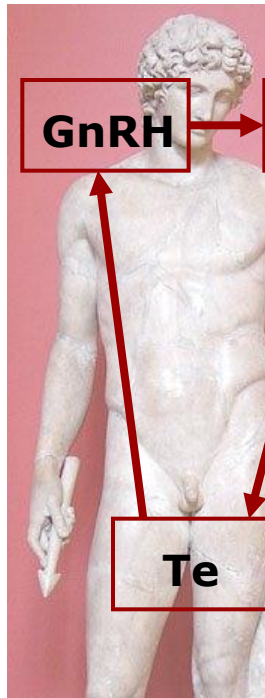


# Endocrinology

- A **hormone** is a chemical messenger from one cell (or group of cells) to another.
- Hormones are produced by nearly every organ and tissue type in a multicellular organism.
- Hormones can be secreted in continuous (**basal**) or pulsatile (**non-basal**) manner.
- **Endocrinology** deals with disorders of the endocrine system and hormones.
- The use of dynamical **mathematical models** and methods in endocrinology is widespread
  - ✱ **Analysis** of feedback phenomena
  - ✱ **Estimation** of immeasurable hormone concentrations
  - ✱ **Control**: artificial pancreas, fertility therapies



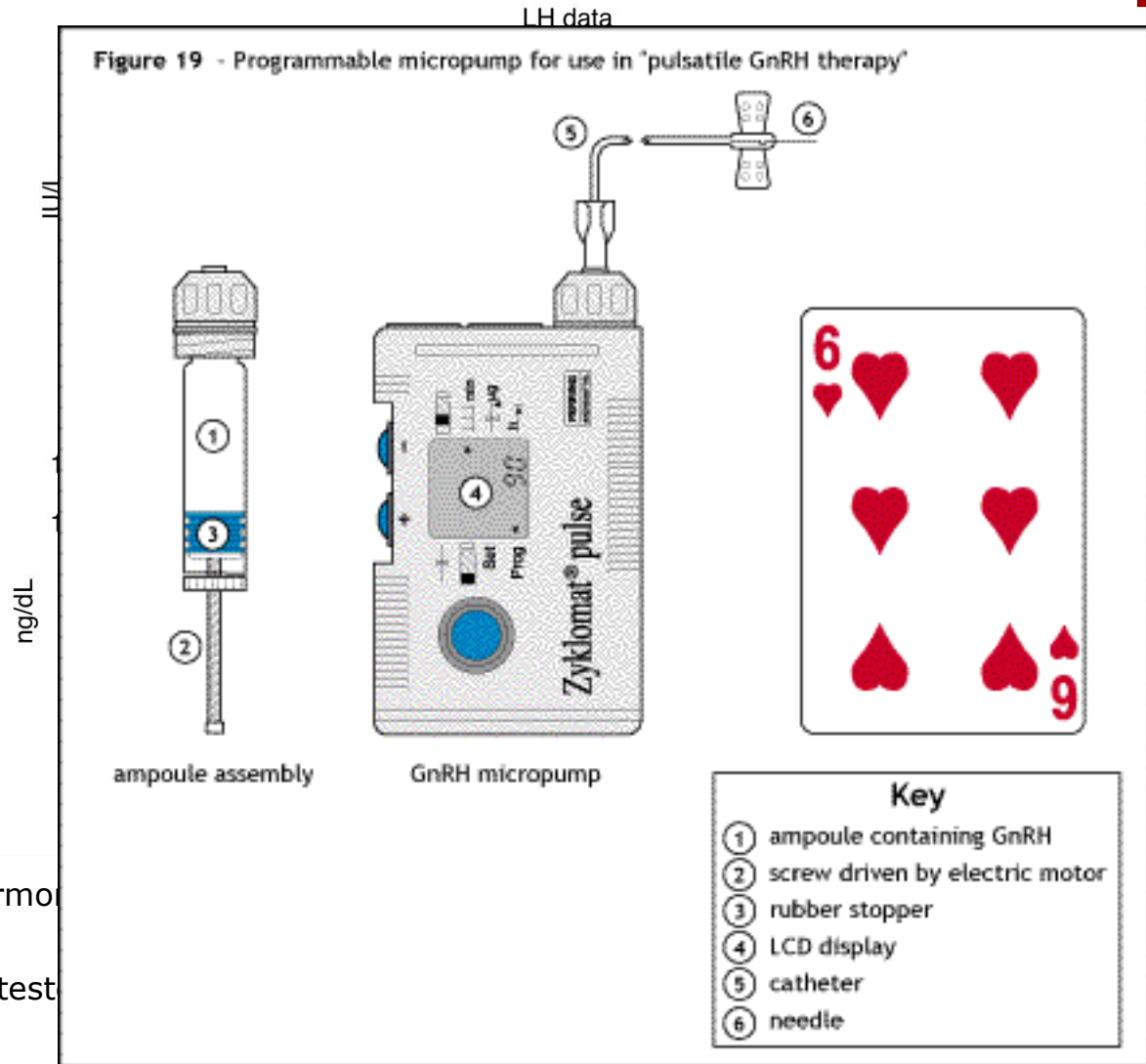
# Modeling, analysis and estimation of the testosterone regulation in the male



GnRH – gonadotropin hormone (hypophysis)

LH – luteinizing hormone (hypophysis)

Te – testosterone (testis)





# Model: Pulsatile secretion

$$\dot{x} = Ax + B\xi(t)$$

$$x = \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix}, A = \begin{bmatrix} -b_1 & 0 & 0 \\ g_1 & -b_2 & 0 \\ 0 & g_2 & -b_3 \end{bmatrix}, B = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}.$$

$x_1$  - GnRH  
 $x_2$  - LH  
 $x_3$  - Te

$b_1, b_2, b_3$  are positive and distinct

GnRH is released in a pulsatile manner:

$$\xi(t) = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \gamma_k \delta(t - t_k)$$

$\gamma_k$  and  $t_k$  are evaluated by pulse modulation algorithm: when Te rises, the pulses of GnRH become sparser and their amplitude diminishes

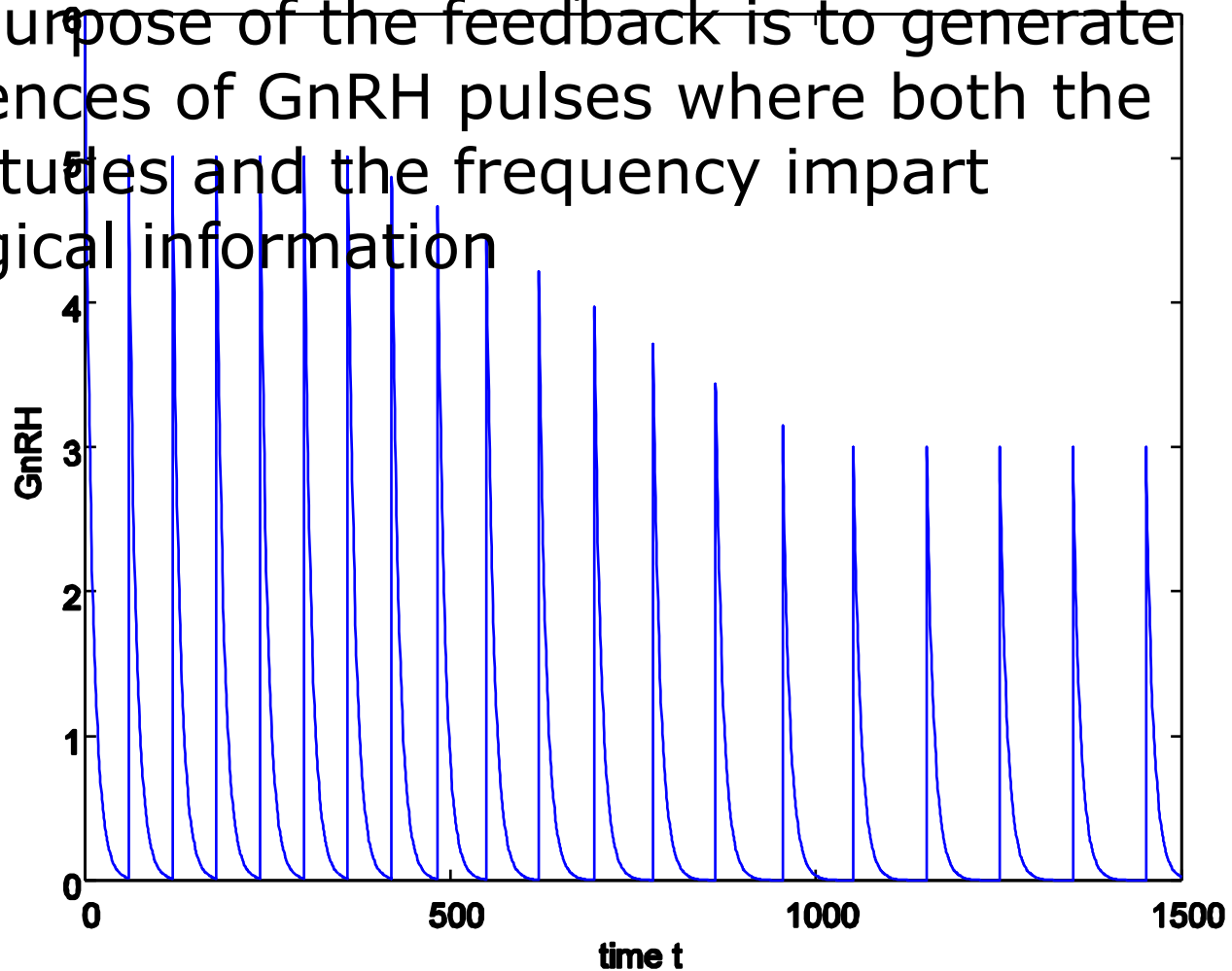


# Pulse modulation in release hormone GnRH

GnRH response to  $T_e=0.04*t$

The purpose of the feedback is to generate sequences of GnRH pulses where both the amplitudes and the frequency impart biological information

$T_e$

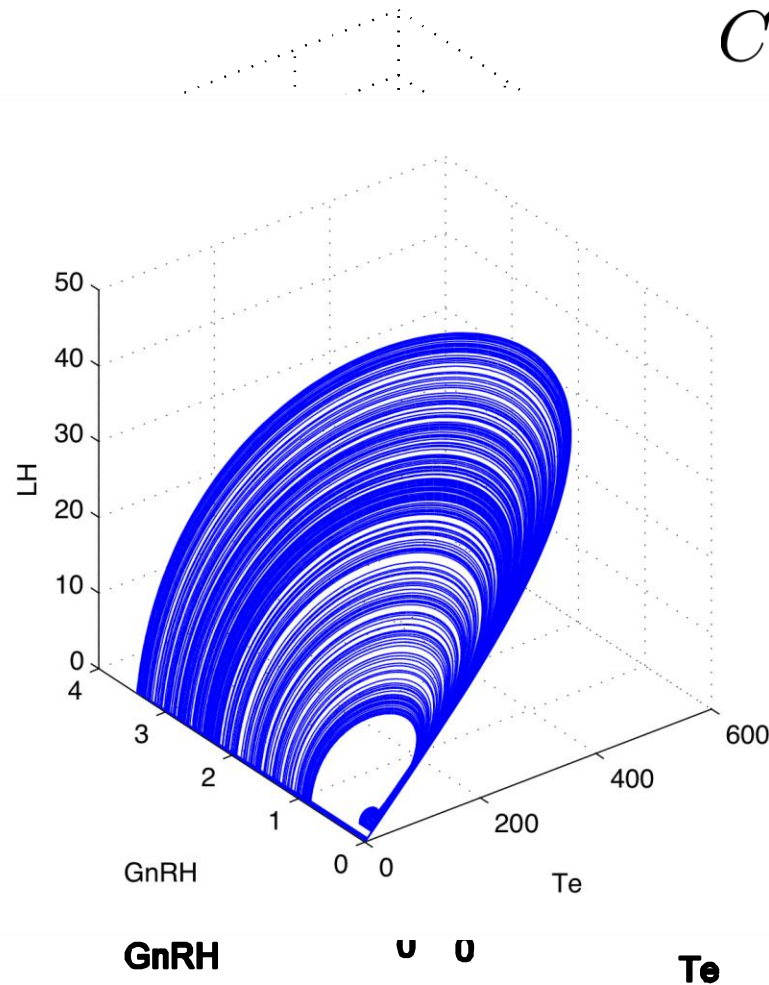


$(t),$   
 $x.$



# Complex dynamics

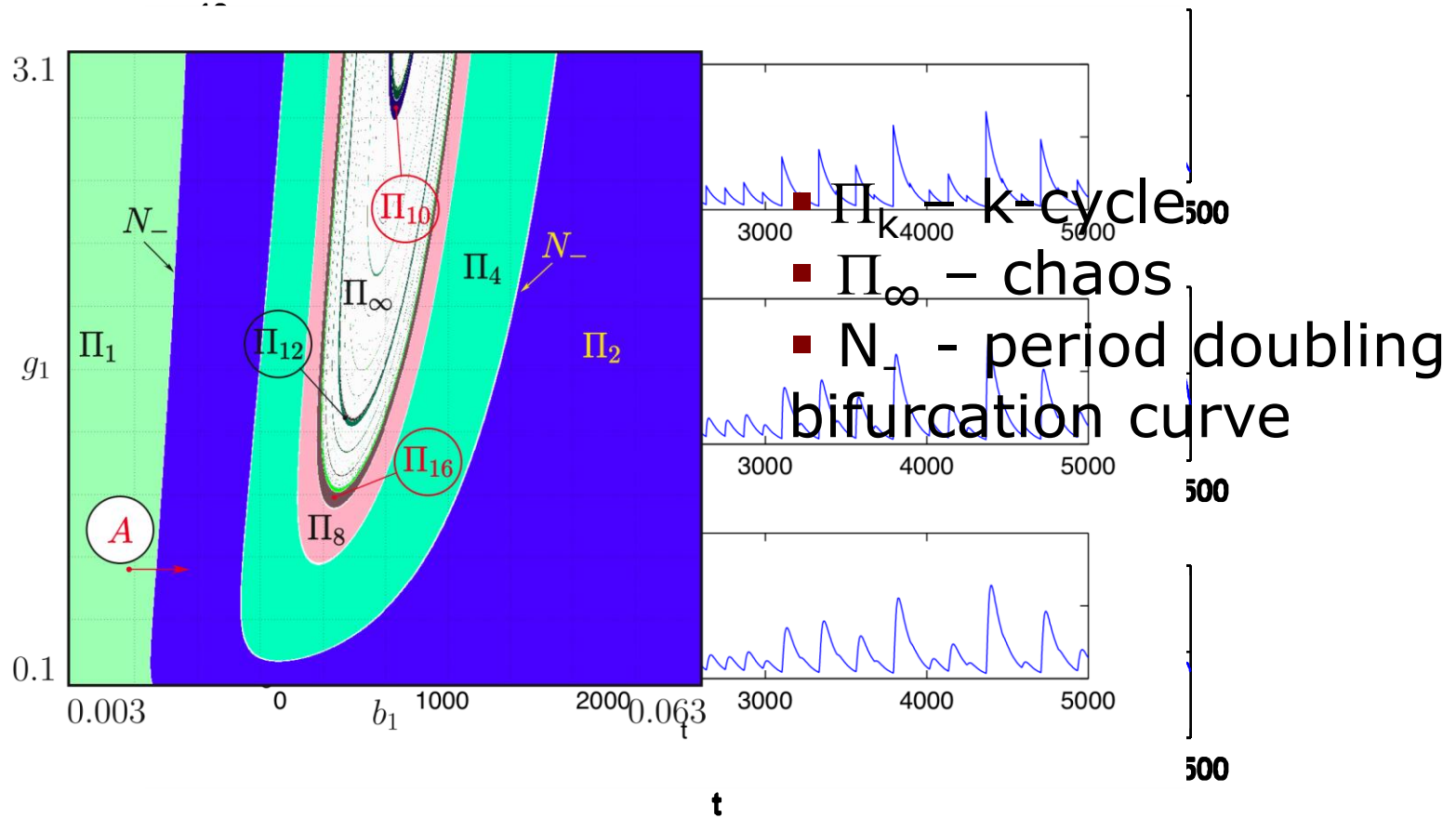
$$CB = 0, \quad LB = 0$$





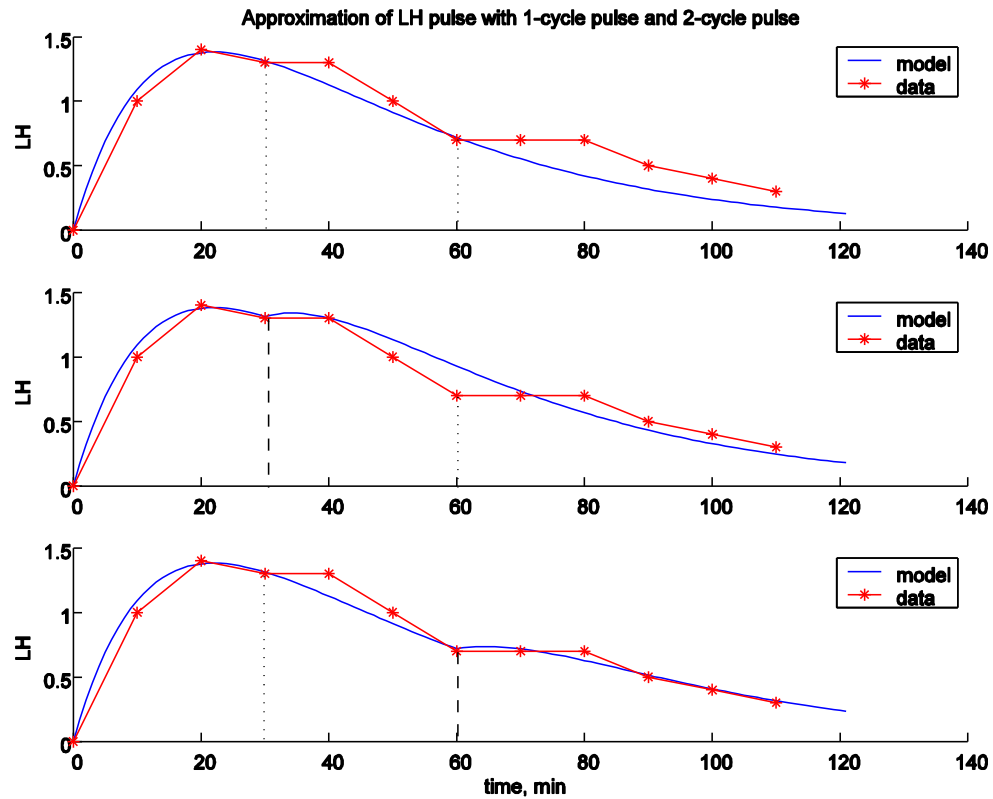


# Chart of dynamic modes





# Validation on clinical data





# Release hormone observer

- Pulsatile release of GnRH is of high interest but not measured in the human
- An observer is used for model-based estimation of GnRH concentration

$$\frac{d\hat{x}}{dt} = A\hat{x} + B\hat{\xi}(t) + K(y - \hat{y})$$

$$\hat{\xi}(t) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \hat{\lambda}_n \delta(t - \hat{t}_n)$$

$$\hat{t}_{n+1} = \hat{t}_n + \hat{T}_n, \quad \hat{T}_n = \Phi(\hat{z}(\hat{t}_n)), \quad \hat{\lambda}_n = F(\hat{z}(\hat{t}_n))$$

$$D = A - KL \quad \text{is Hurwitz}$$



# Synchronous observer mode

Let  $(x(t), t_n)$  be a solution of the plant equations with  $\lambda_k$ ,  $T_k$  and  $x_k = x(t_k^-)$ .

Consider the observer solution  $(\hat{x}(t), \hat{t}_n)$

with i. c.  $\hat{t}_0 = t_a$ ,  $\hat{x}(\hat{t}_0^-) = x(t_a^-)$ , for some  $a$ .

Such  $(\hat{x}(t), \hat{t}_n)$  is called a *synchronous mode*

w. r. t.  $(x(t), t_n)$  if

$$\hat{x}_n = x_{n+a}, \hat{t}_n = t_{n+a}, \hat{\lambda}_n = \lambda_{n+a}, n = 0, 1, 2, \dots,$$

*Locally asymptotically stable:* any  $(\hat{x}(t), \hat{t}_n)$  such that small  $|\hat{t}_0 - t_a|$  and  $\|\hat{x}(\hat{t}_0^-) - x(t_a^-)\|$  imply

$$\hat{t}_n - t_{n+a} \rightarrow 0 \text{ and } \|\hat{x}(\hat{t}_n^-) - x(t_{n+a}^-)\| \rightarrow 0 \text{ as } n \rightarrow \infty.$$



# Pointwise mapping

Consider the pointwise mapping:

$$(\hat{x}(\hat{t}_n^-), \hat{t}_n) \mapsto (\hat{x}(\hat{t}_{n+1}^-), \hat{t}_{n+1}).$$

Select  $k$  and  $s$ ,  $k \leq s$ , such that

$$t_k \leq t < t_{k+1}, \quad t_s \leq t + \Phi(Cx) < t_{s+1}.$$

The mapping is given by

$$\hat{x}_{n+1} = P(\hat{x}_n, \hat{t}_n), \quad \hat{t}_{n+1} = \hat{t}_n + \Phi(C\hat{x}_n).$$

$$\begin{aligned} P(x, t) = P_{k,s}(x, t) &= e^{A(t+\Phi(Cx)-t_s)} x(t_s^+) \\ &\quad - e^{D\Phi(Cx)} \left[ e^{A(t-t_k)} x(t_k^+) - x - F(Cx)B \right] \\ &\quad - \sum_{j=k+1}^s \lambda_j e^{D(t+\Phi(Cx)-t_j)} B. \end{aligned}$$



# Pointwise mapping

Define  $Q_{k,s}(q) = \begin{bmatrix} P_{k,s}(x, t) \\ t + \Phi(Cx) \end{bmatrix}$ , where  $q = \begin{bmatrix} x \\ t \end{bmatrix}$ .

Set  $Q(q) = Q_{k,s}(q)$  for  $t_k \leq t < t_{k+1}$ ,  
 $t_s \leq t + \Phi(Cx) < t_{s+1}$ .

Then  $\hat{q}_{n+1} = Q(\hat{q}_n)$ , where

$$\hat{q}_n = \begin{bmatrix} \hat{x}_n \\ \hat{t}_n \end{bmatrix}, \quad Q(q) = \begin{bmatrix} P(x, t) \\ t + \Phi(Cx) \end{bmatrix}.$$

- The mapping  $P(\cdot)$  is continuous
- The derivatives of  $P(\cdot)$  w. r. t.  $x$  and  $t$  are also continuous



# Jacobian matrix

The Jacobian of  $Q(q) : Q'(q) = \begin{bmatrix} P'_x(x, t) & P'_t(x, t) \\ \Phi'(Cx)C & 1 \end{bmatrix}$

Synchronous mode:  $\hat{q}_n^0 = \begin{bmatrix} x_{n_a} \\ t_{n_a} \end{bmatrix}$ .

The Jacobian at  $\hat{q}_n^0 : J_{n_a} \stackrel{def}{=} Q'(\hat{q}_n^0)$  is comprised of

$$(J_k)_{11} = \Phi'_k A x_{k+1} C + e^{DT_k} (I_{n_x} + F'_k B C),$$

$$(J_k)_{12} = A x_{k+1} - e^{DT_k} A (x_k + \lambda_k B),$$

$$(J_k)_{21} = \Phi'_k C, \quad (J_k)_{22} = 1.$$

By the chain rule, for  $m \geq 1$

$$\left( Q^{(m)} \right)' (\hat{q}_n^0) = J_{n_a+m-1} J_{n_a+m-2} \dots J_{n_a+1} J_{n_a}.$$



# Local asymptotic stability

Let  $(x(t), t_n)$  be a  $m$  – cycle. Then  $J_{n+m} \equiv J_n$ .

1) The synchronous observer mode w. r. t.  $(x(t), t_n)$  is locally asymptotically stable if  $J_0 \dots J_{m-1}$  is Schur stable.

2) Suppose

$$-1 < \prod_{k=0}^{m-1} (\Phi_k' C A x_{k+2} + 1) < 1.$$

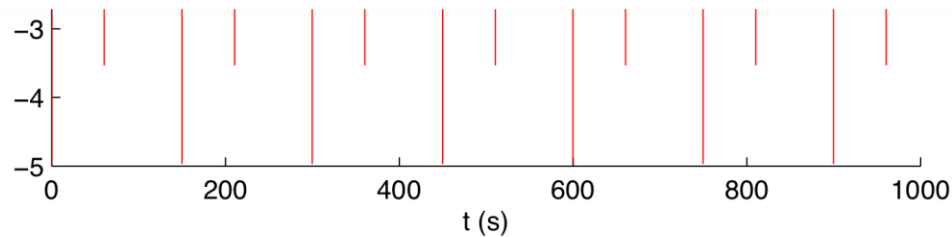
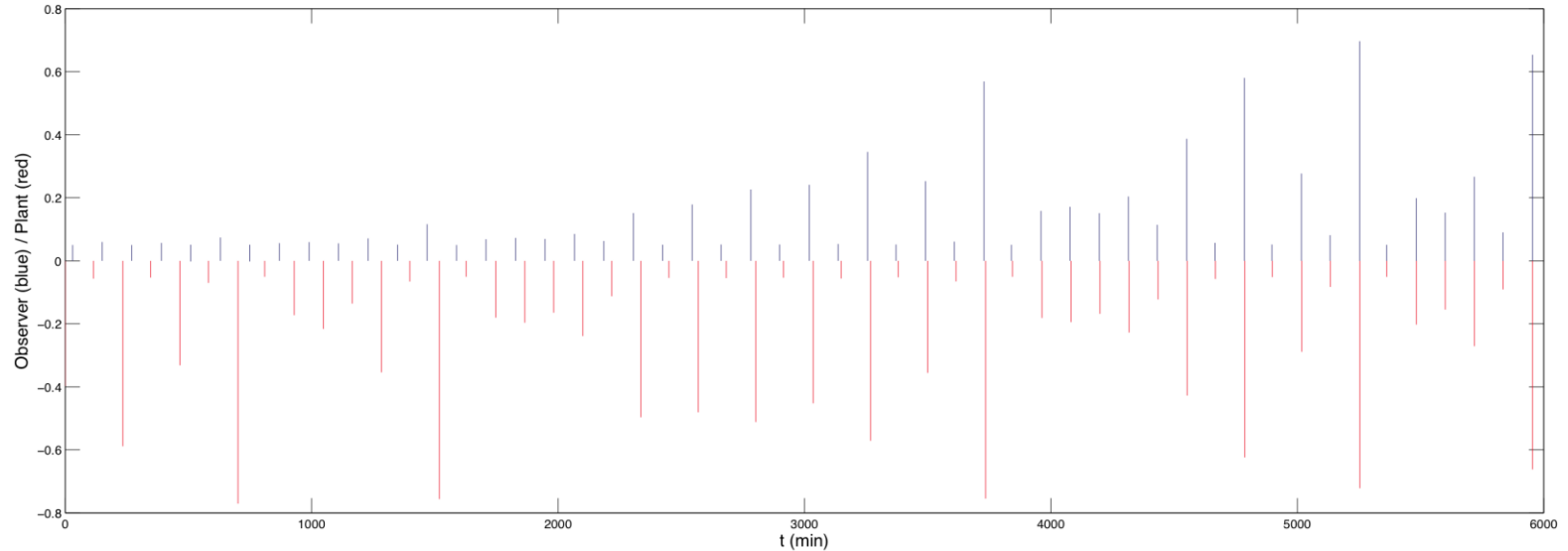
Then there is always  $K$  such that

$J_0 \dots J_{m-1}$  is Schur stable.





# Simulation



Chaotic solution in the plant  
2-cycle with non-zero initial conditions



# Conclusions

- A hybrid model of hormone regulation with intrinsic impulse-modulated feedback is shown to possess complex dynamics.
- An observer with a static output estimation error feedback for the closed-loop endocrine regulation model is suggested.
- A condition for the state estimation error stabilizability is obtained.
- Conditions for local asymptotic stability of the state estimation error under  $m$ -cycle in the endocrine plant are derived.