

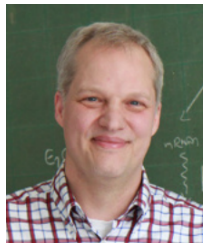
# THE COMMIT-AND-DELAY MODEL

... FOR (ALMOST) EXACT, COARSE GRAINED ...

... NUCLEIC ACID FOLDING KINETICS



Erik Winfree (Caltech) Joseph Berleant (MIT)



Ivo Hofacker



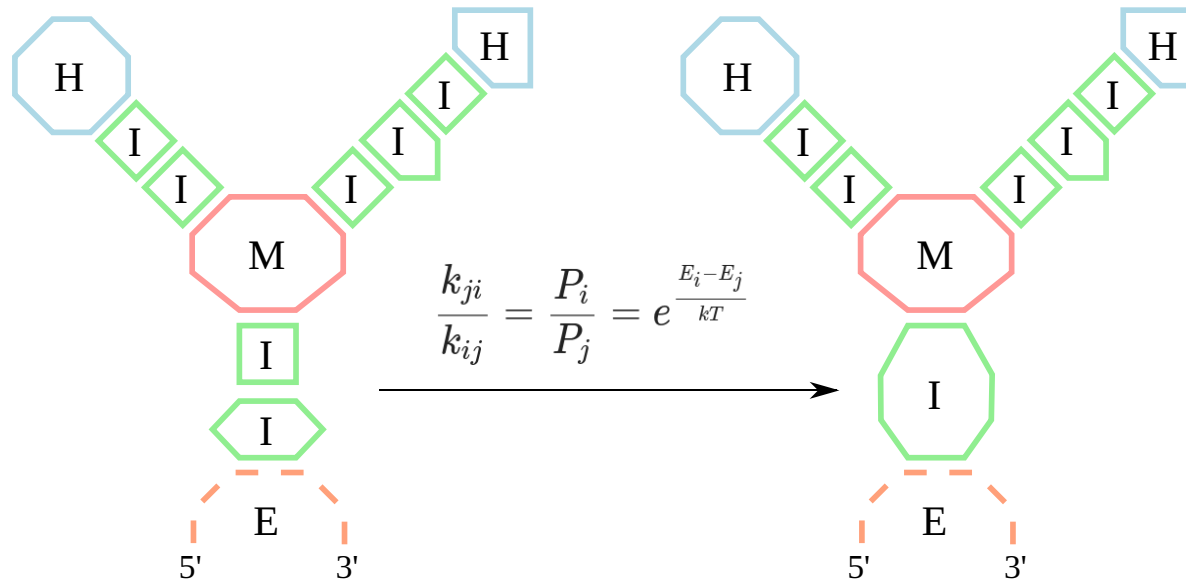
**BLED 2024**

[Stefan Badelt](#)

Theoretical Biochemistry Group (tbi),  
University of Vienna

39th TBI Winterseminar

# THE Kinfold MODEL



- Choose a rate model that satisfies detailed balance
- Simulate single stochastic folding trajectories as given by the master equation

$$\frac{dP_i(t)}{dt} = \sum_{i \neq j} (P_j(t)k_{ji} - P_i(t)k_{ij})$$

→ yields the correct equilibrium distribution

→ whether kinetics is correct depends on the rate model!

# DETERMINISTIC MODELS

- are useful, e.g. because:
  - sometimes simulations take a long time
  - interesting transitions visible on the log scale
  - kinetic evaluation during sequence design
  - parameter inference
- existing solutions:
  - have unreliable dynamics
  - correct equilibrium distribution

# EXAMPLES FOR EXISTING MODELS

- barriers/treekin
  - limited sequence length
  - non-Markovian macrostates
  - exact equilibrium distribution
- DrTransformer
  - heuristic
- ... more

# WHAT IS THE RATE?

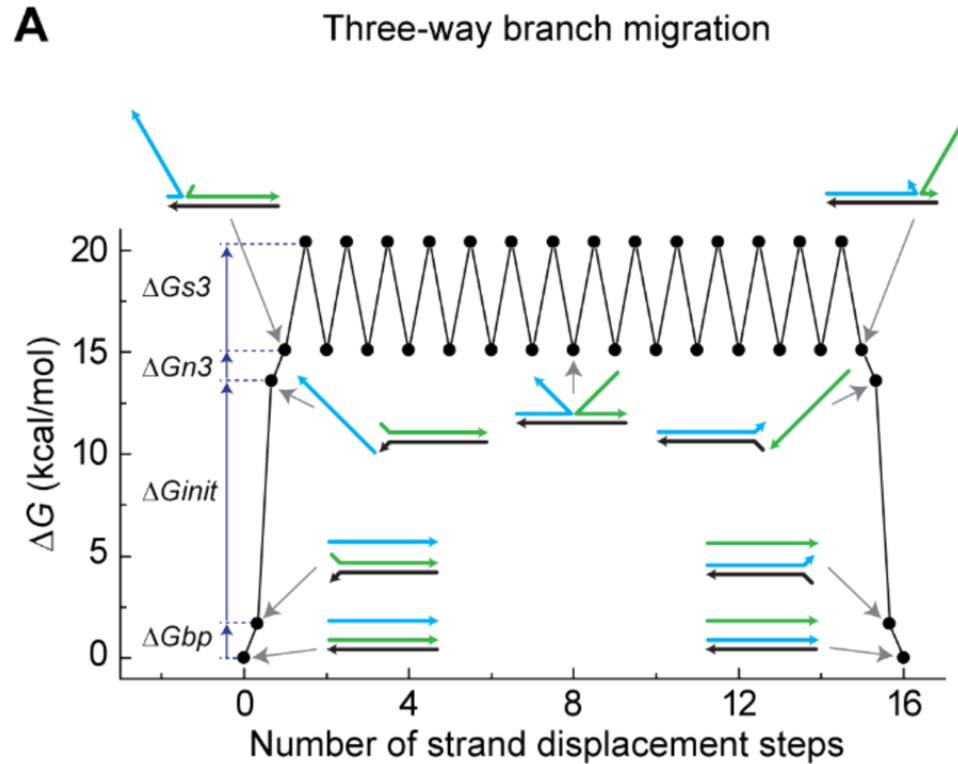


Figure from Kotani & Hughes (2017)

# WHAT IS THE RATE?

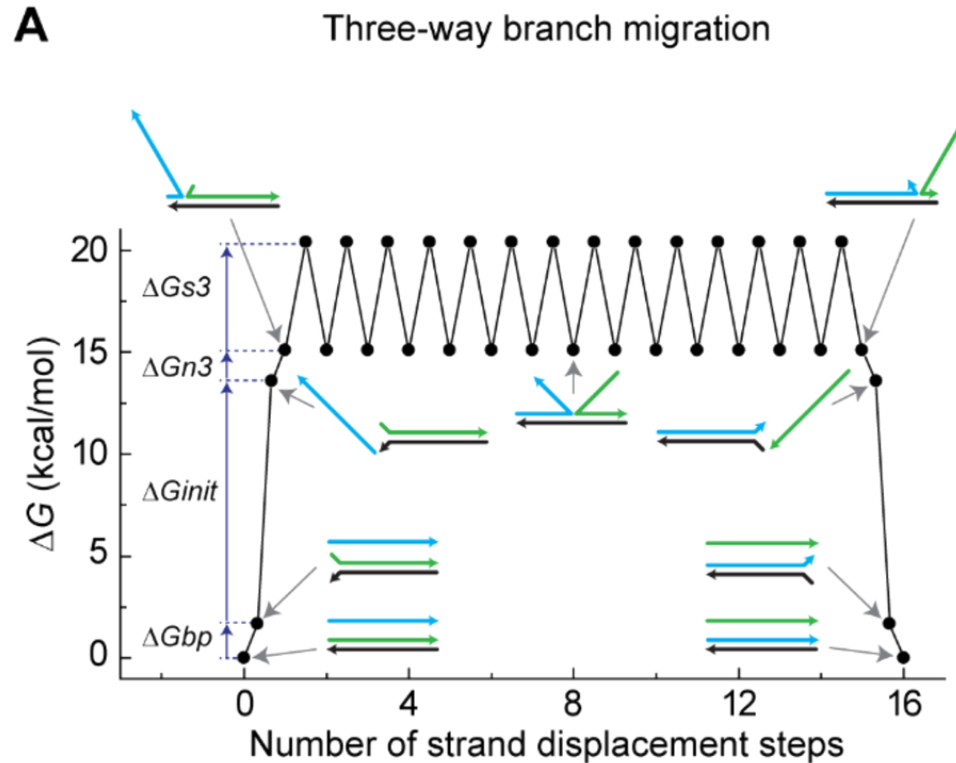


Figure from Kotani & Hughes (2017)

$$P^{success} = 1/l \quad \rightarrow k \propto 1/l$$
$$T^{expected} = l^2 \quad \rightarrow k \propto 1/l^2$$

# WHAT IS THE RATE?

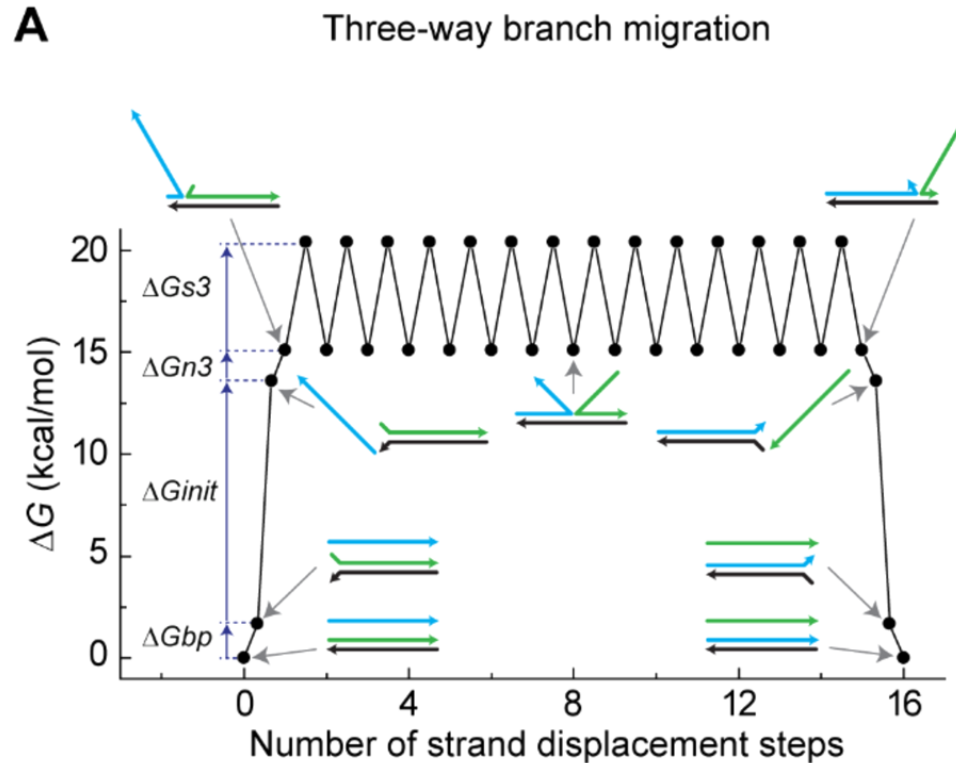
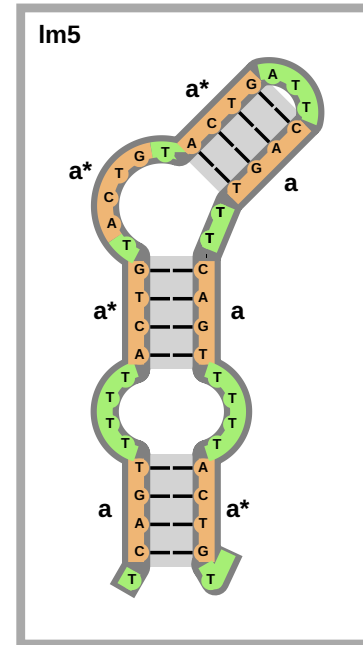
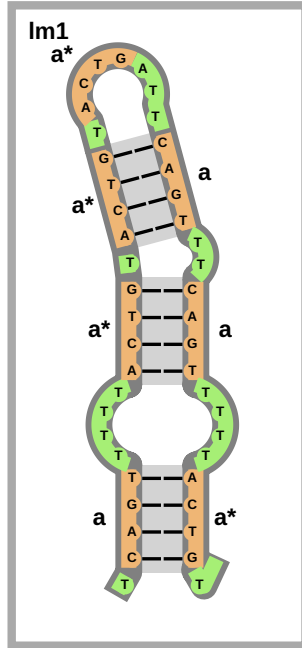


Figure from Kotani & Hughes (2017)

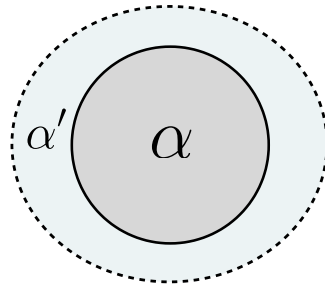
$$P^{success} = 1/l \quad \rightarrow k \propto 1/l$$
$$T^{expected} = l^2 \quad \rightarrow k \propto 1/l^2$$

Berleant et al. (2018):  
use "first step" model.

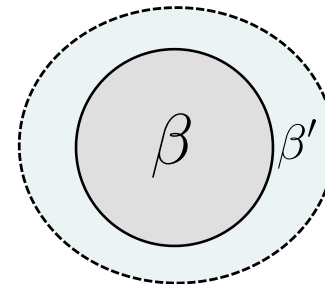




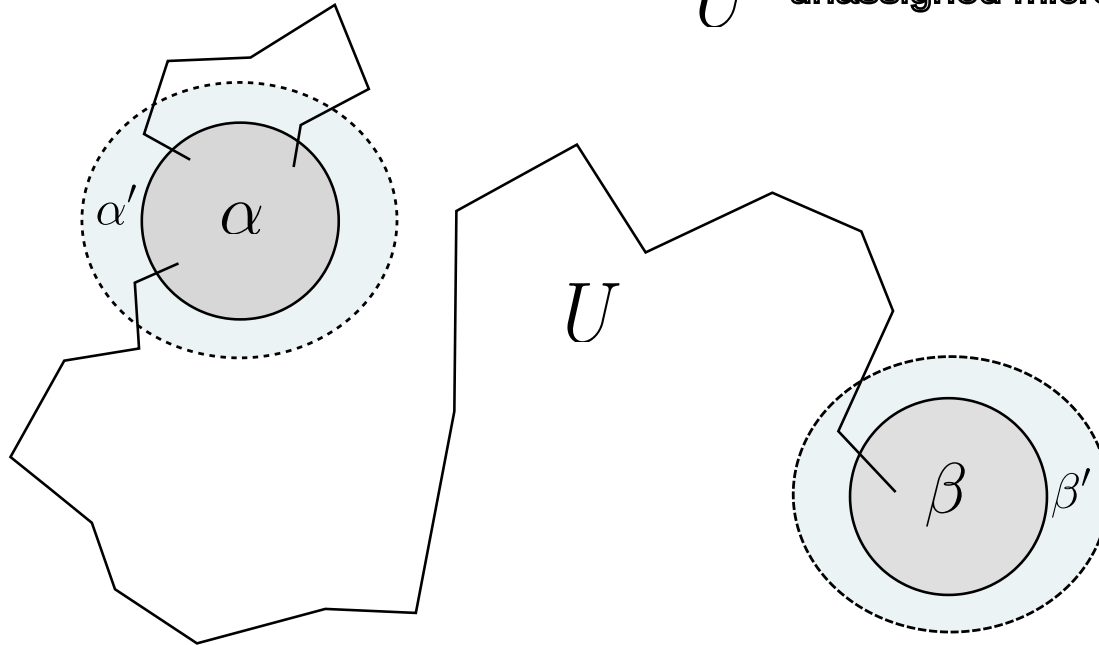
$\alpha \beta$  macostates  
 $\alpha' \beta'$  macostate neighborhoods  
 $U$  unassigned microstates



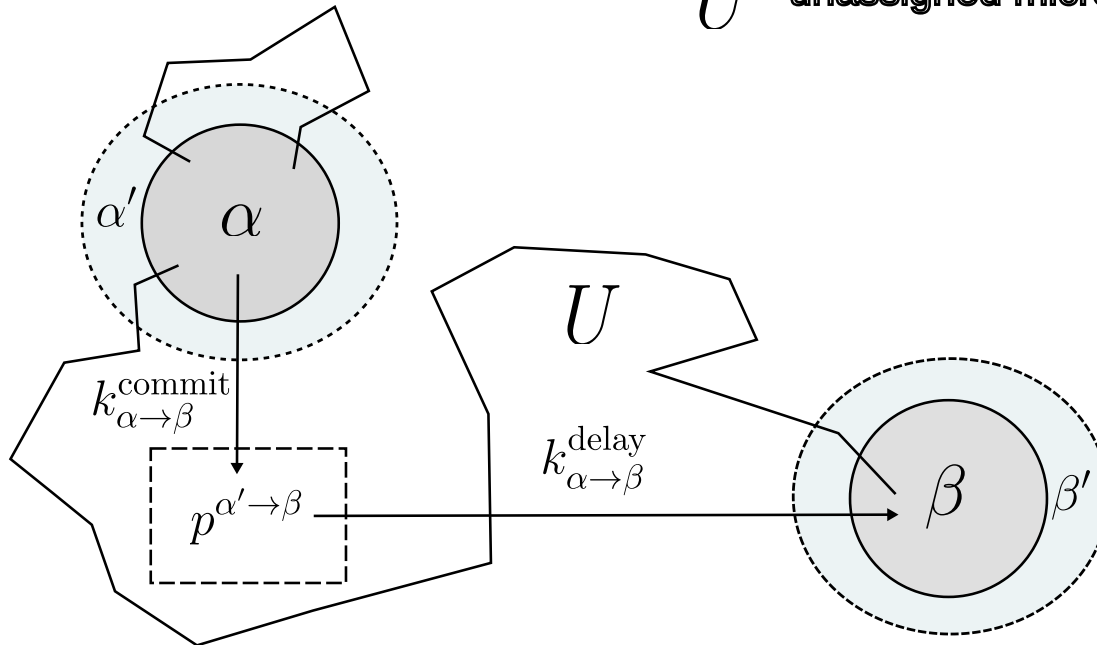
$U$

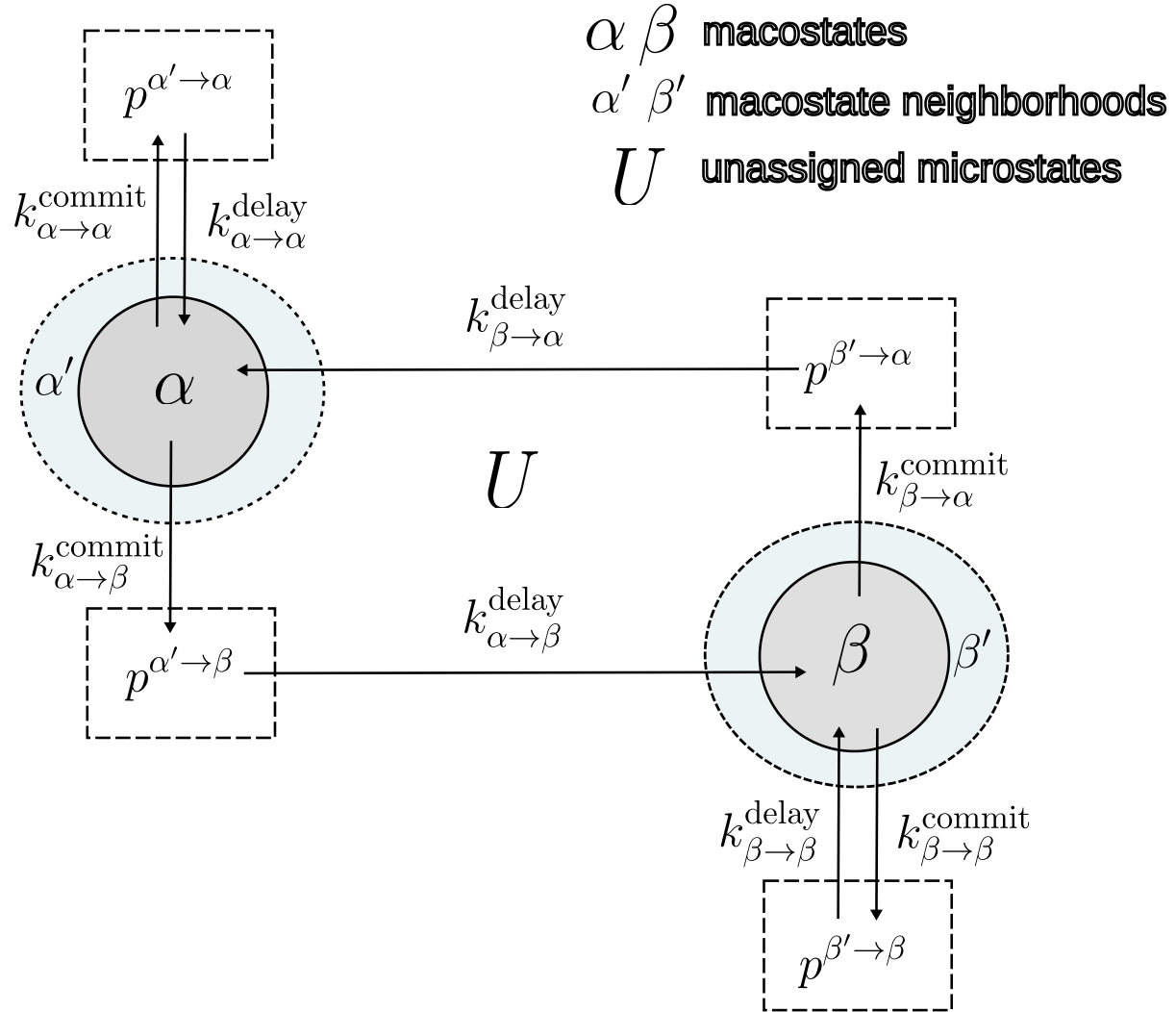


$\alpha$   $\beta$  macostates  
 $\alpha'$   $\beta'$  macostate neighborhoods  
 $U$  unassigned microstates

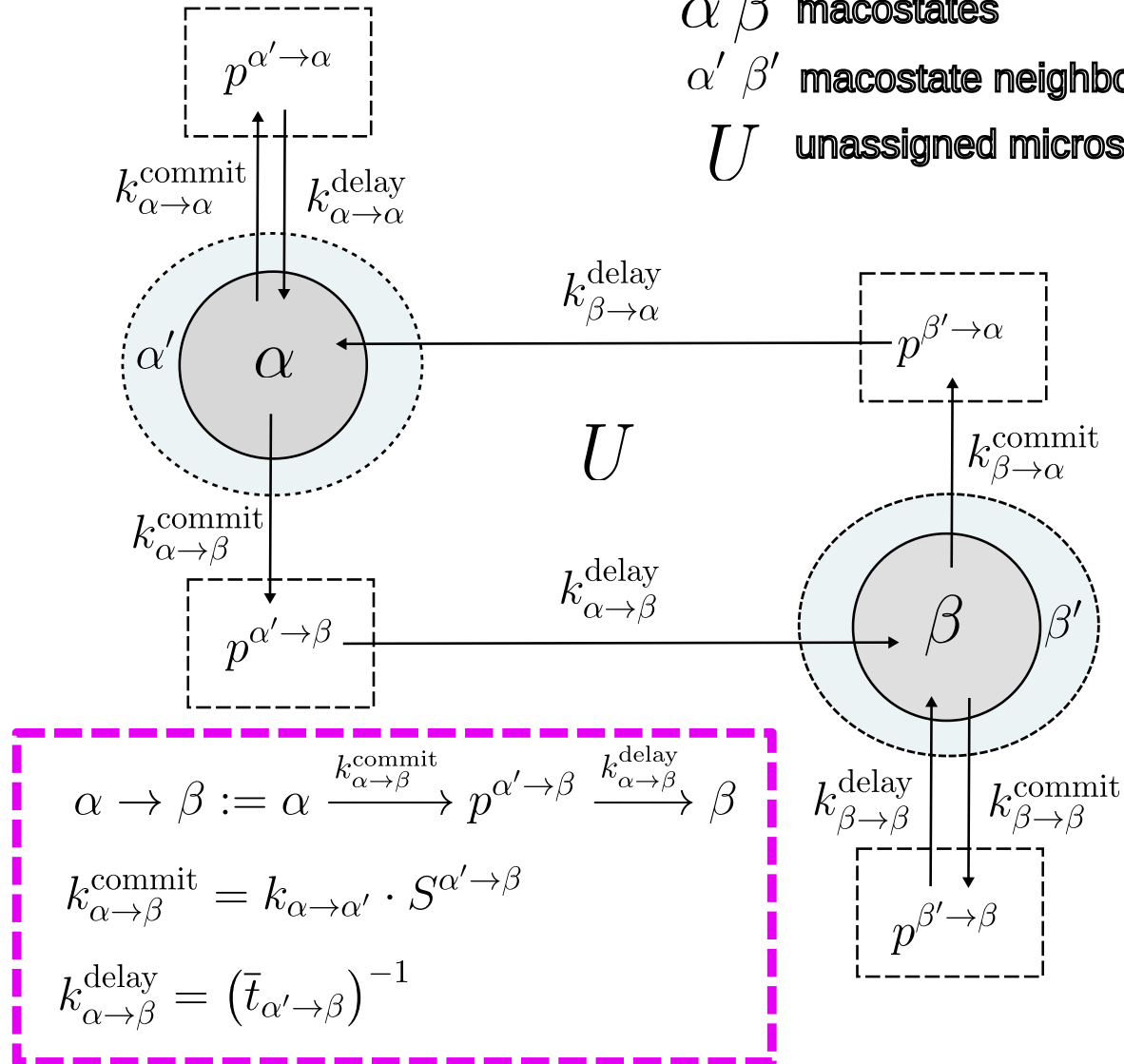


$\alpha$   $\beta$  macostates  
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$\alpha \beta$  macostates  
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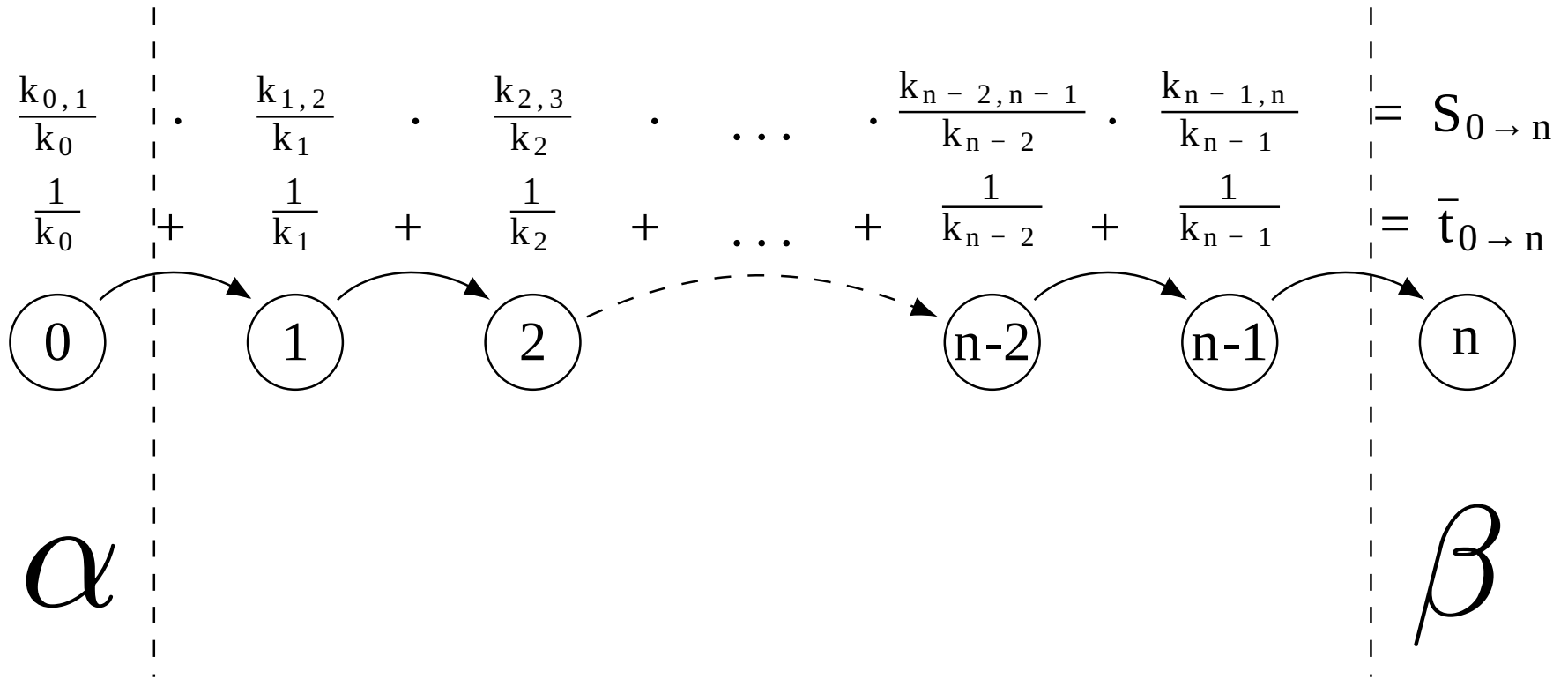
# THE "ROOT" MODEL

$$\alpha \rightarrow \beta := \alpha \xrightarrow{k_{\alpha \rightarrow \beta}^{\text{commit}}} p^{\alpha' \rightarrow \beta} \xrightarrow{k_{\alpha \rightarrow \beta}^{\text{delay}}}$$

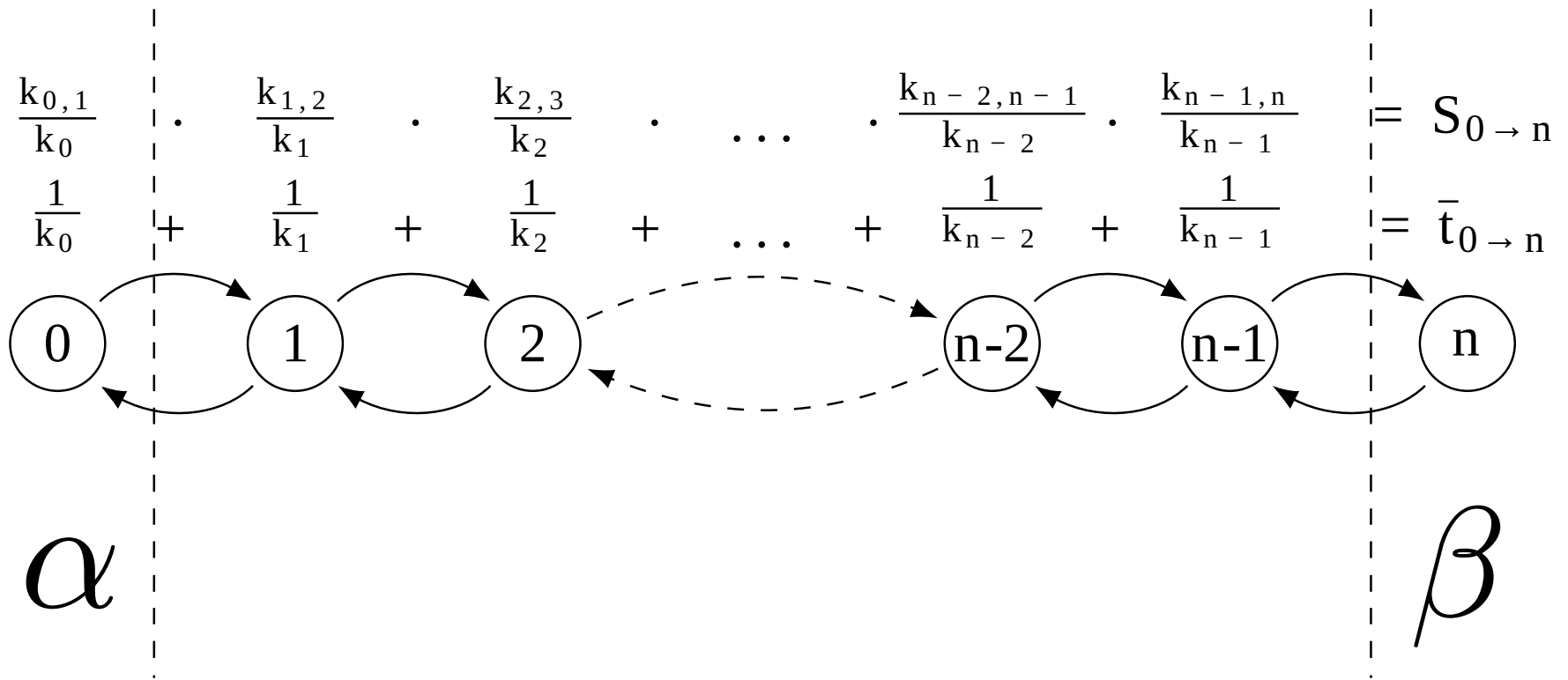
$$k_{\alpha \rightarrow \beta}^{\text{commit}} = k_{\alpha} \cdot \hat{S}^{\alpha' \rightarrow \beta} = \sum_{\substack{i \in \alpha \\ j \in \alpha'}} P(i|\alpha) k_{i \rightarrow j} \cdot \frac{\sum_{j \in \alpha'} |t_j|}{\sum_{j \in \alpha'} |t_j|}$$

$$k_{\alpha \rightarrow \beta}^{\text{delay}} = \frac{1}{\bar{t}_{\alpha' \rightarrow \beta}} = \left( \frac{1}{n} \sum_{l=1}^n t_l^{j \rightarrow \beta} \right)^{-1}$$

# CORRECTNESS OF THE "ROOT" MODEL



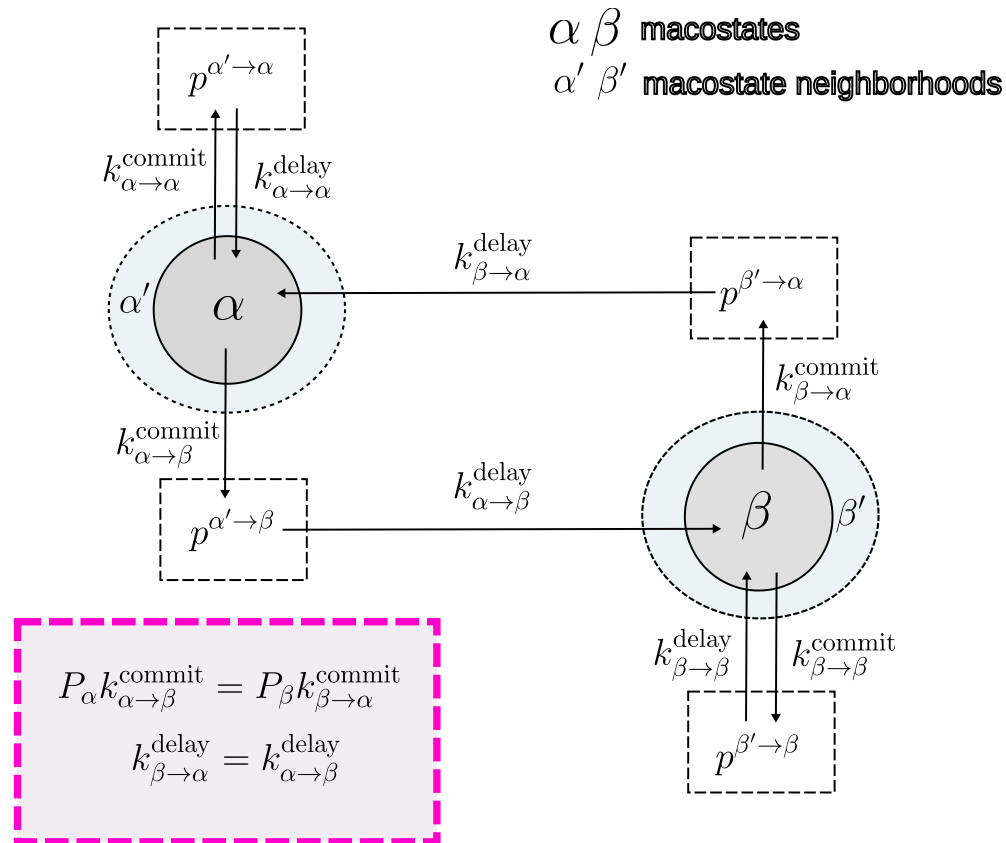
# CORRECTNESS OF THE "ROOT" MODEL



So how is  $\bar{t}_{\alpha' \rightarrow \beta}$  related to  $\bar{t}_{\beta' \rightarrow \alpha}$ ?



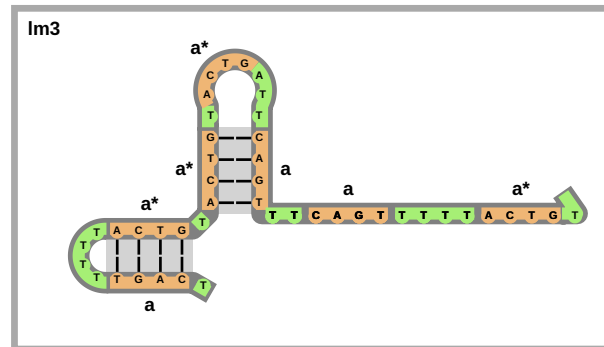
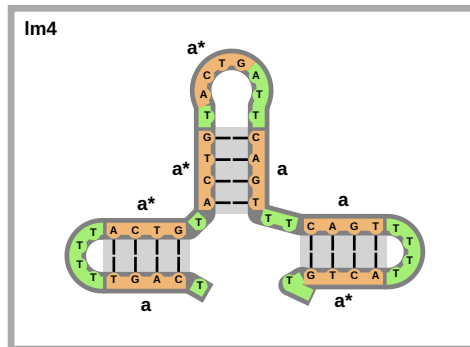
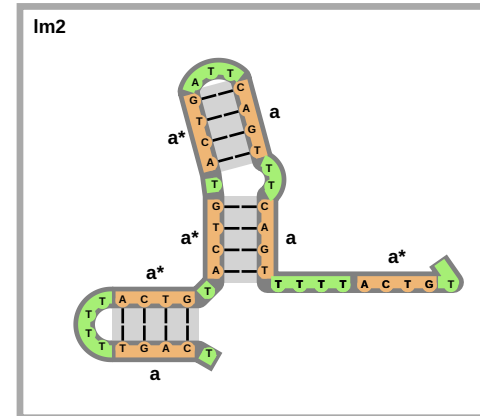
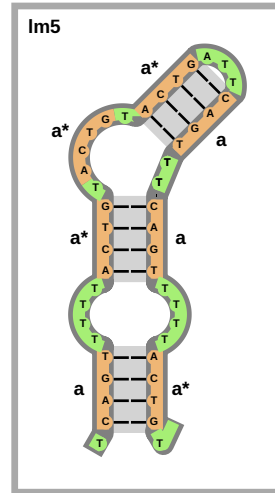
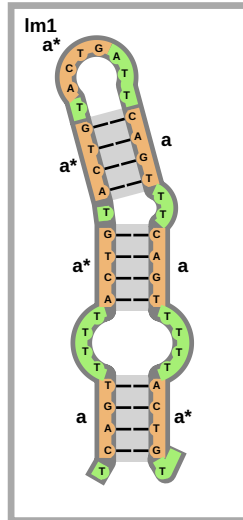
# CORRECTNESS OF THE "ROOT" MODEL



# LIMITATIONS

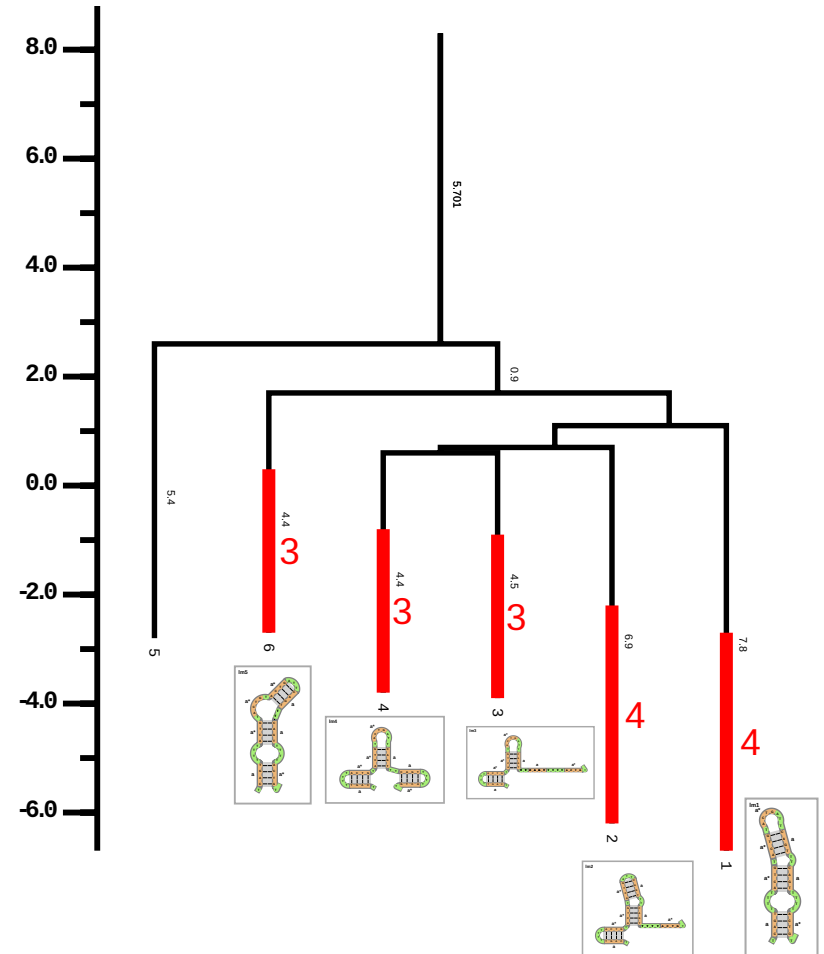
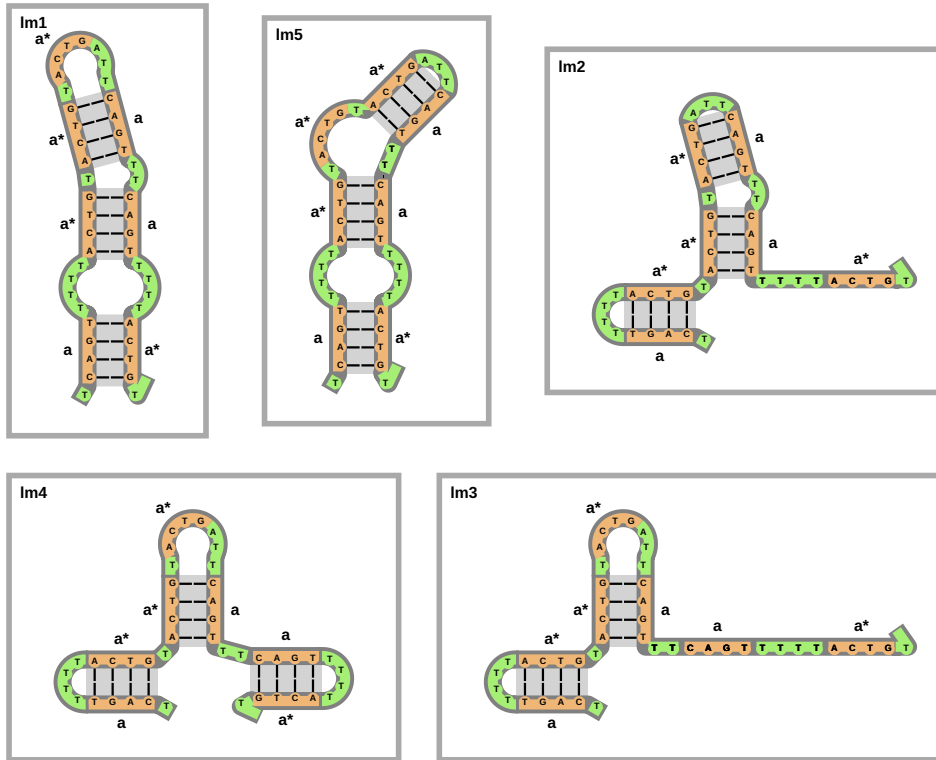
- Correct equilibrium, ... so what?
- What are the limitations of the "root" model?
- What the heck is missing for the final model?

# AN EXAMPLE



UCAGUCUUCGCUGCGCUGUAUCGAUUCGGUUUCAGUUUUUAUUGC

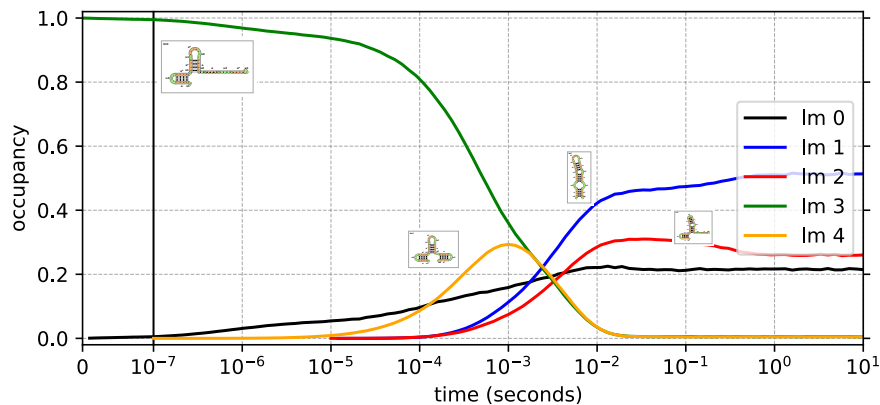
# AN EXAMPLE



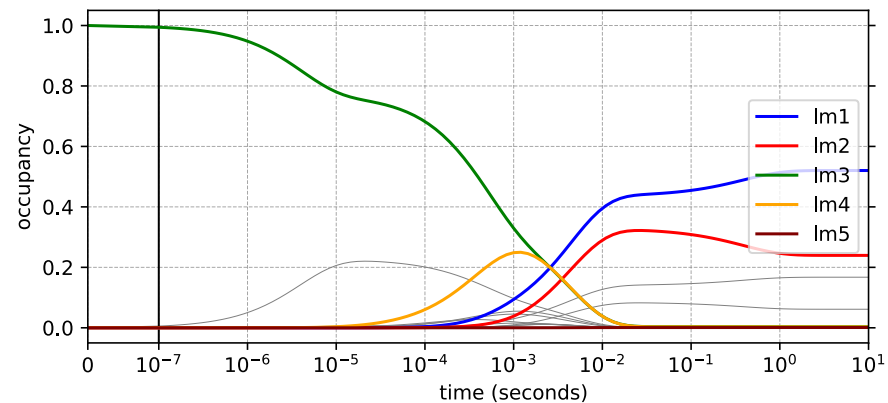
UCAGUCUUCGCUGCGCUGUAUCGAUUCGGUUUCAGUUUUUAUUGC

# A SIMPLE COMPARISON

kinfold



commit 'n' delay



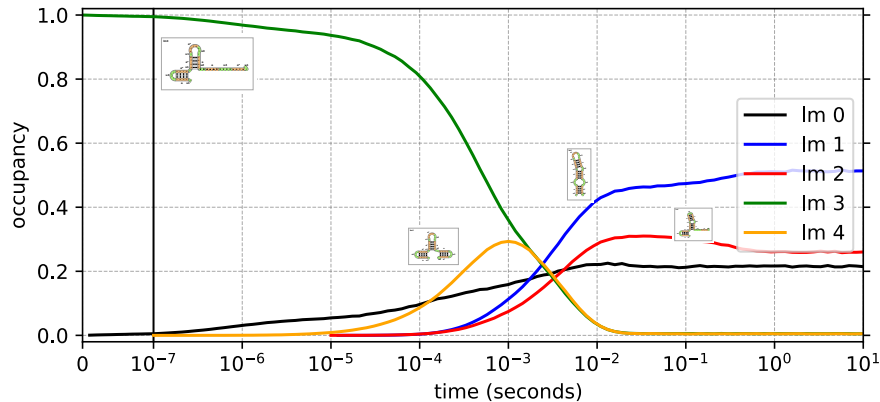
10<sup>5</sup> simulations;  
metropolis model:  
 $k_0 = 10^6$

5 · 10<sup>5</sup> simulations;  
metropolis model:  
 $k_0 = 10^6$

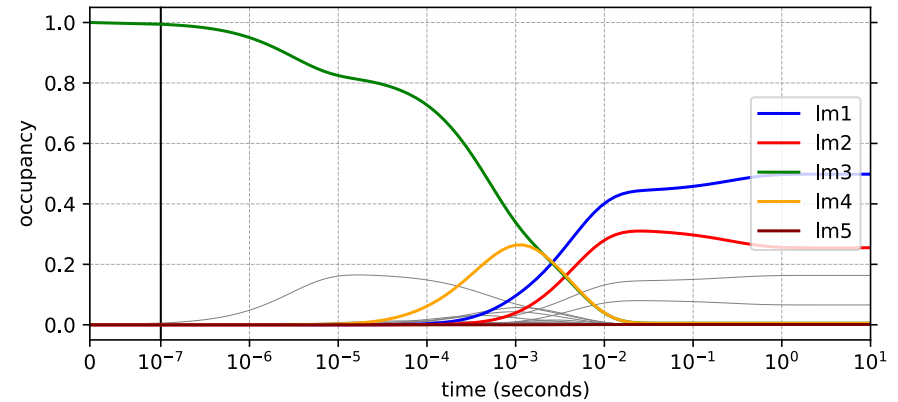
... so how do they compare?

# A SIMPLE COMPARISON

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commit 'n' delay



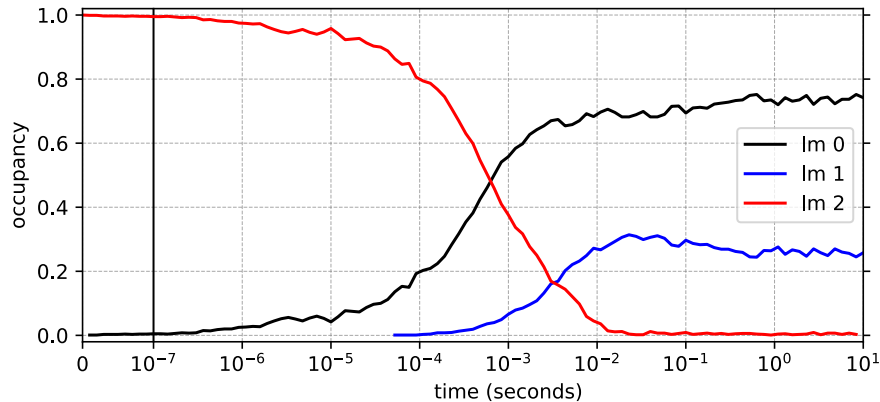
10<sup>5</sup> simulations;  
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10<sup>7</sup> simulations;  
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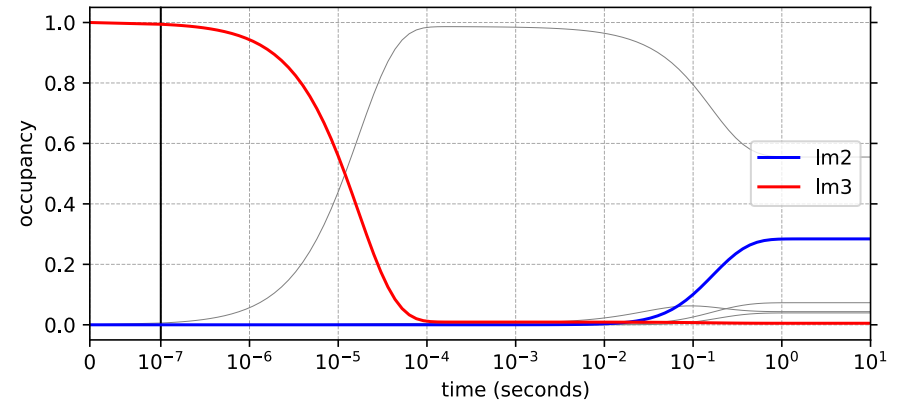
... so how do they compare?

# A SIMULATION WITH ONLY TWO SPECIES

kinfold



commit 'n' delay

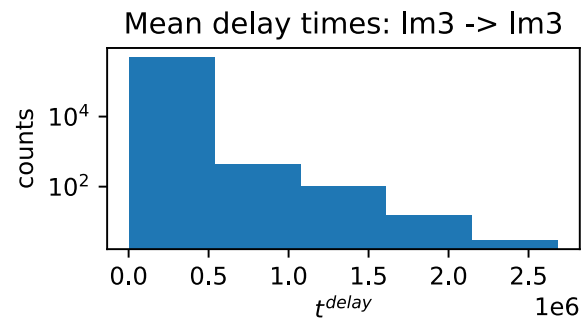
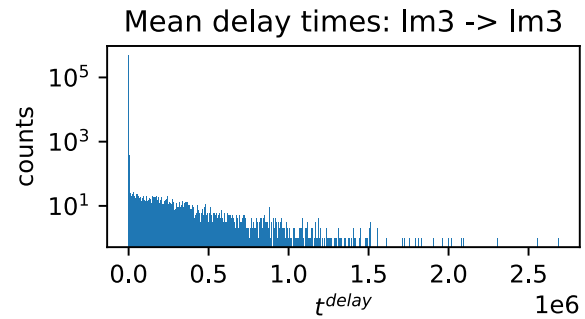


$10^4$  simulations;  
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$10^5$  simulations;  
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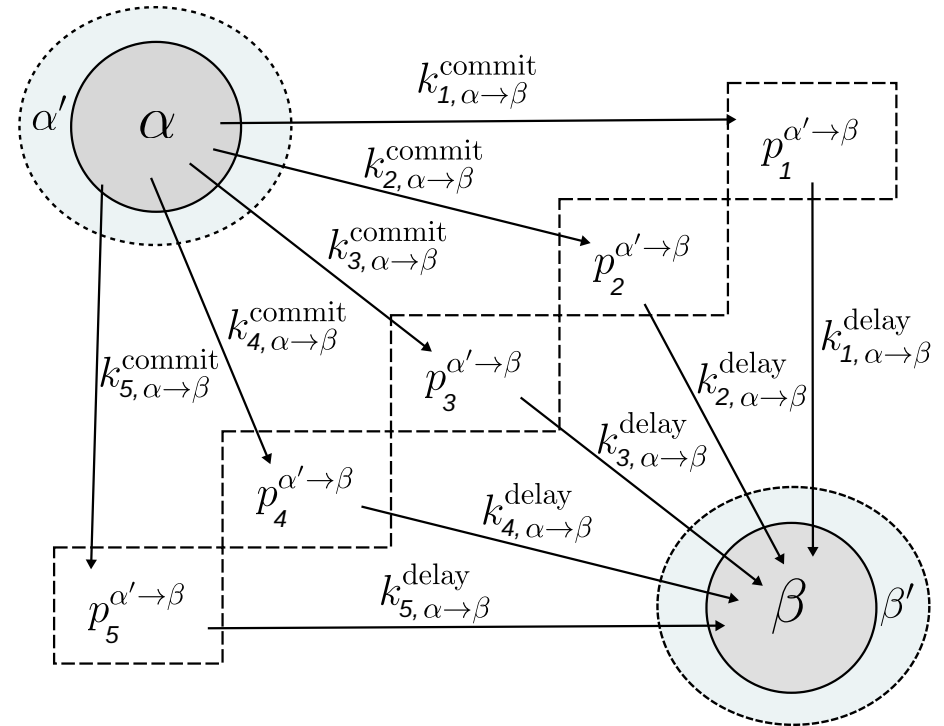
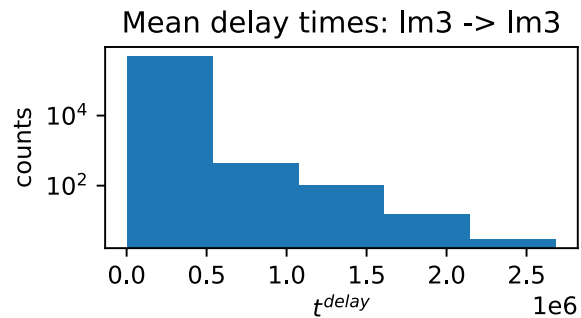
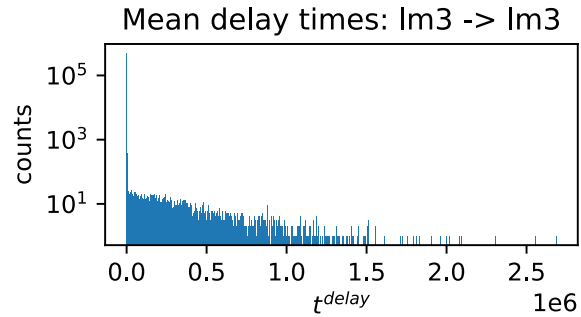
... a pair of reactions is not enough.

# SPLITTING PATHWAYS



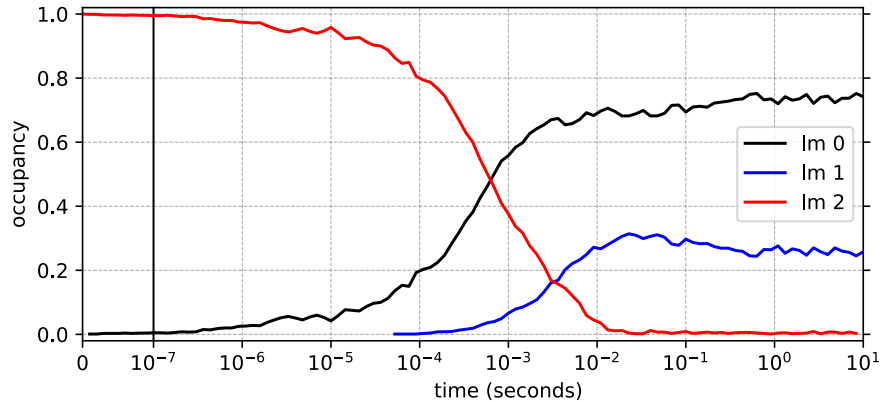


# SPLITTING PATHWAYS



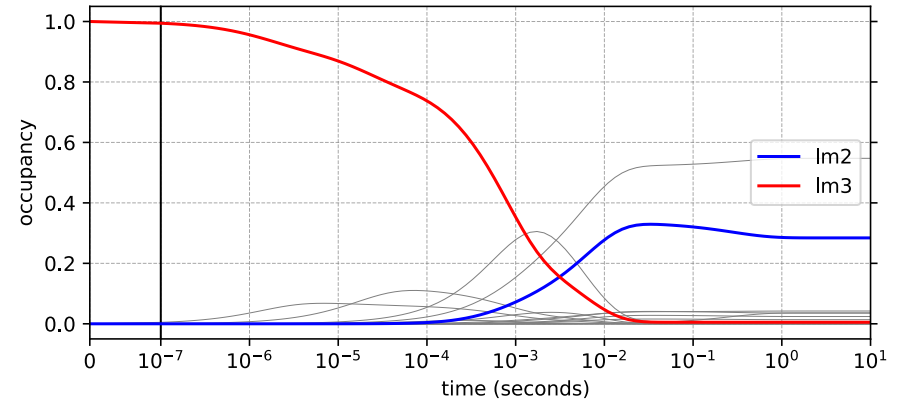
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kinfold



$10^4$  simulations;  
metropolis model:  
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commit 'n' delay

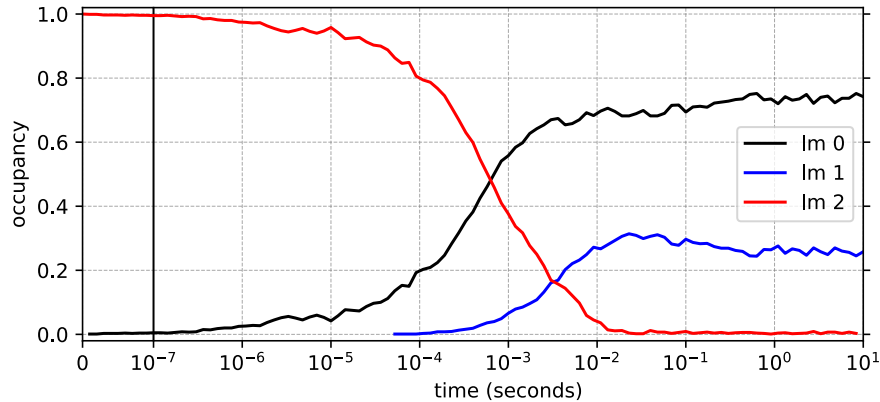


$10^5$  simulations;  
metropolis model:  
 $k_0 = 10^6$ ; 5 paths!

...

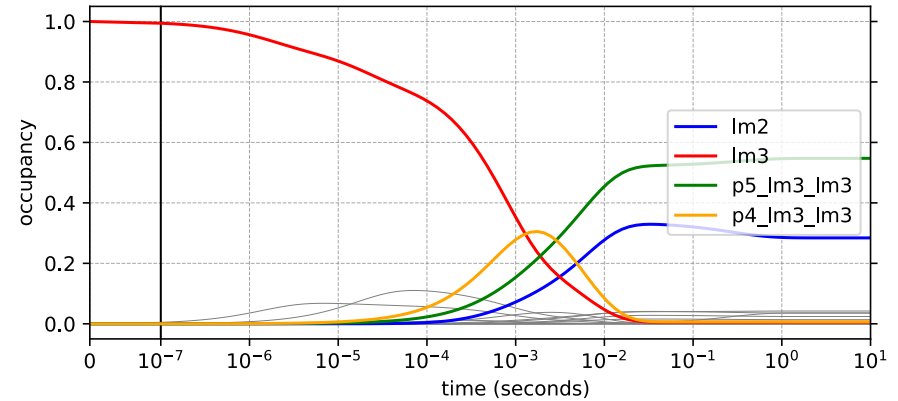
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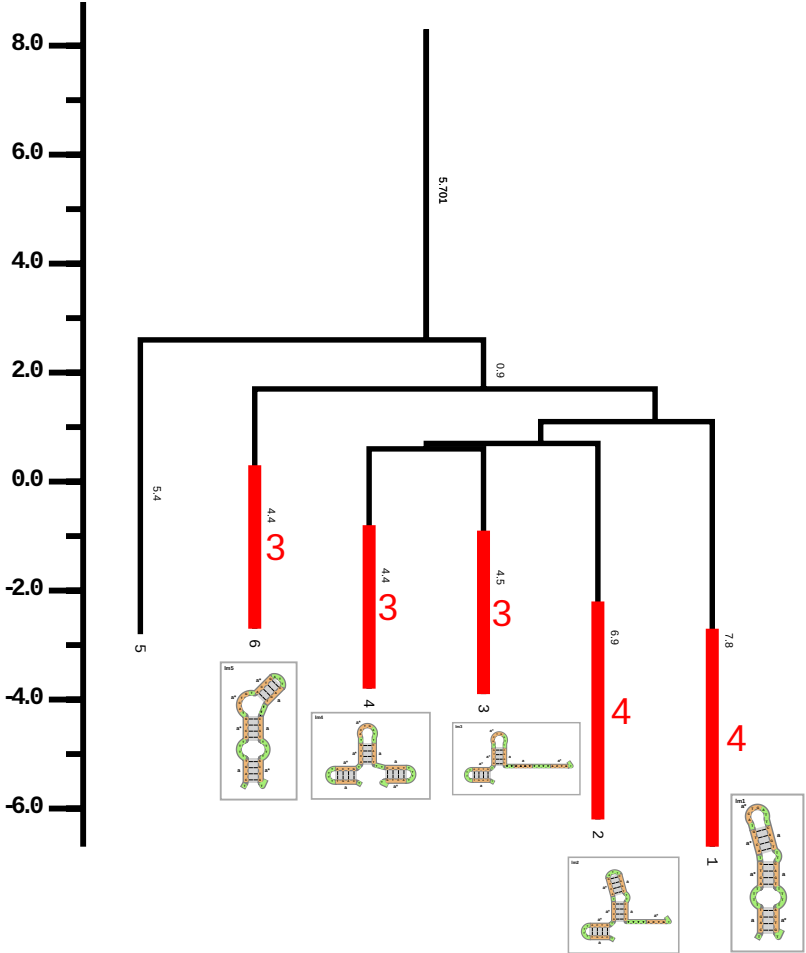
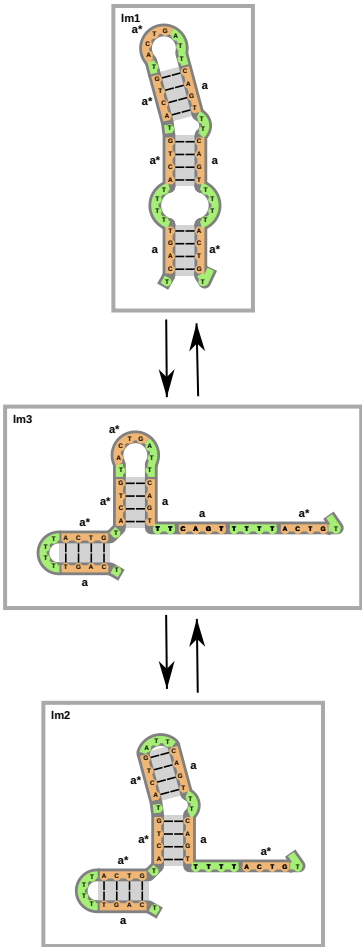
commit 'n' delay



$10^5$  simulations;  
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...

# WHAT ELSE CAN WE LEARN?

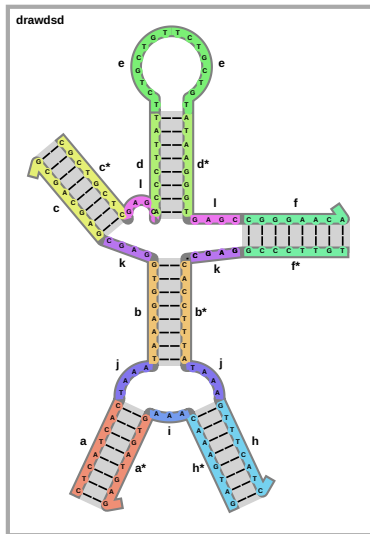


# IN PROGRESS / IN PREPARATION

- Estimate the error of simulations?
- Enforce correct equilibrium distribution.
- Learn rate parameters for domain-level folding.

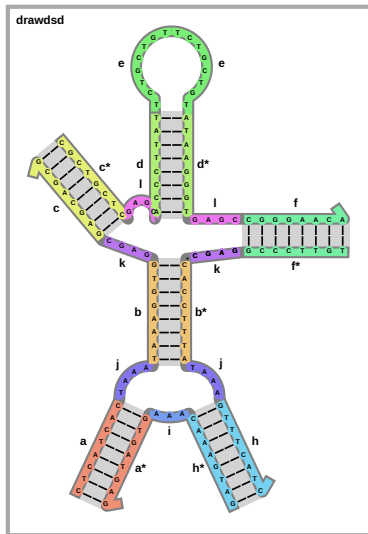
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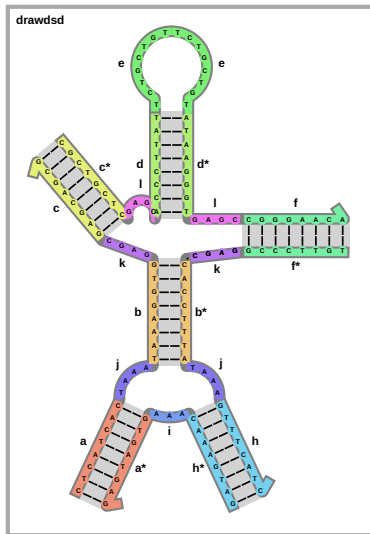
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<https://github.com/bad-ants-fleet/drawdsd>

# IN PROGRESS / IN PREPARATION

- Estimate the error of simulations?
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**THANK YOU!**

<https://github.com/bad-ants-fleet/drawdsd>



