

# Molecular Communication Using Timing & Payload

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WINLAB IAB  
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# Biology-Inspired Molecular Communication

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## Intriguing Science & Engineering

# LOTS of recent work in the area

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# Chris Is Getting Old (and cranky?)

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Is there a

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# Unifying Elephant?

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Framework  
+  
Fundamental Limits  
+  
Applications

---

# A (stab at a) Unified Framework

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Token construction + Transport



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$$\text{m-RNA} \rightarrow 3.6 \times 10^{24} \frac{\text{bits}}{\text{kg}}$$

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### Timing Is Fundamental

Mean first passage time is key

# Today's Talk

Today's  Talk

# Timing Channel Abstraction

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# Information-Theoretic Modeling

(for Roy, Narayan, Predrag, Waheed and Anand 😊)

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# Energy



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# Energy Bounds

Today's  Talk

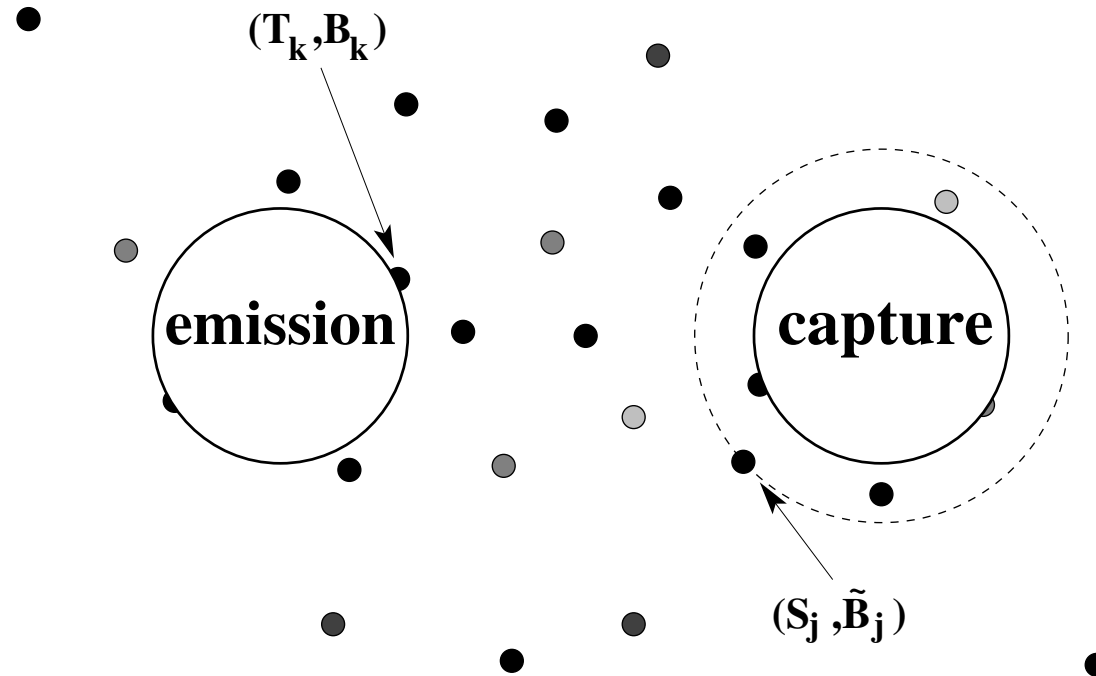
# Timing Channel Abstraction

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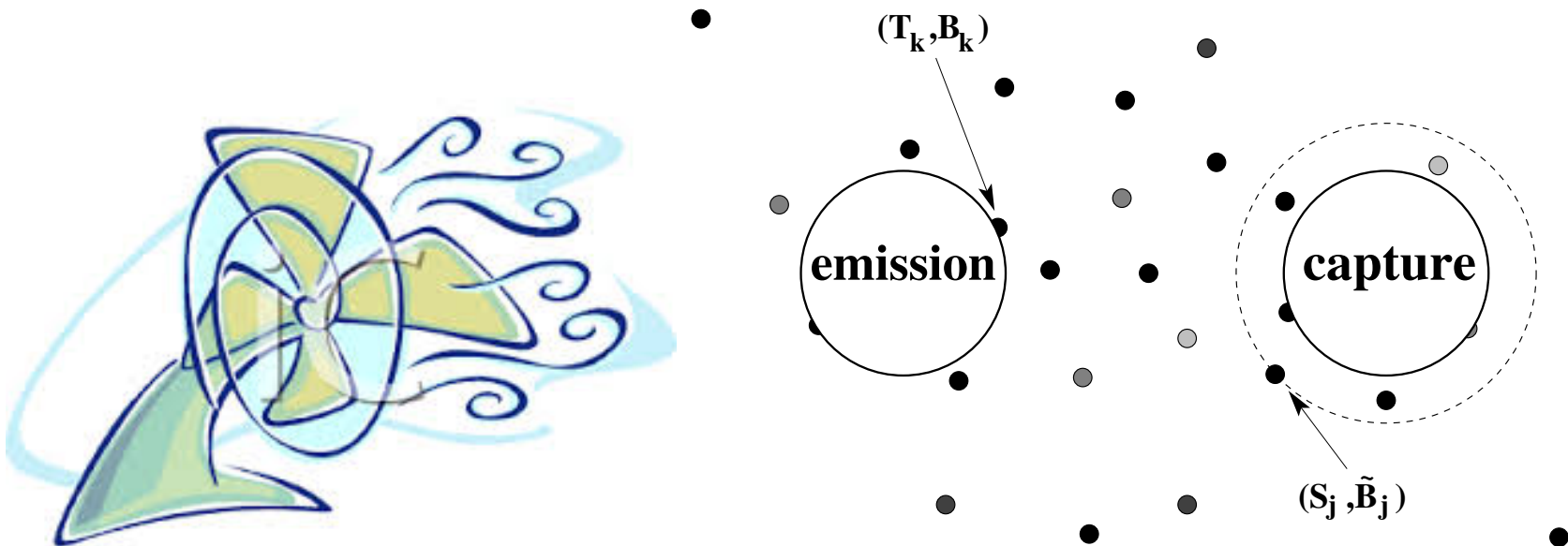
**Energy**  
**Bounds**  
**Ball Park Calculations**

## Diffusion Cartoon



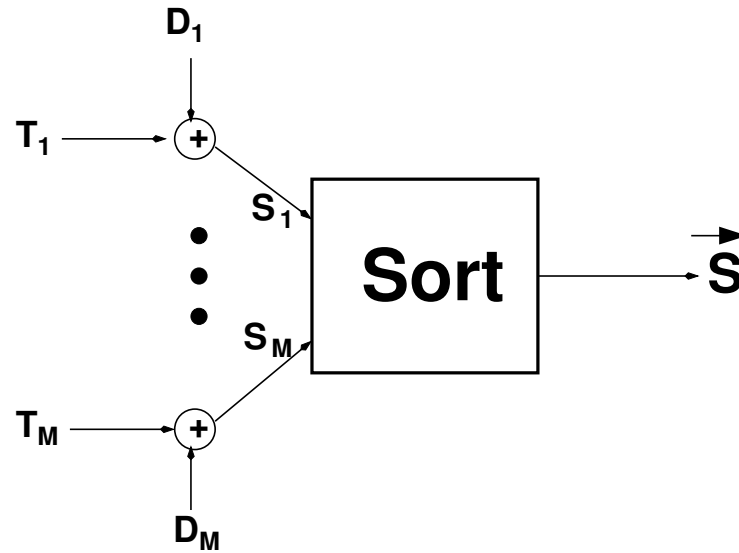
Coding → **Emission** → **Transport** → **Capture** → Decoding

## Diffusion with Drift Cartoon

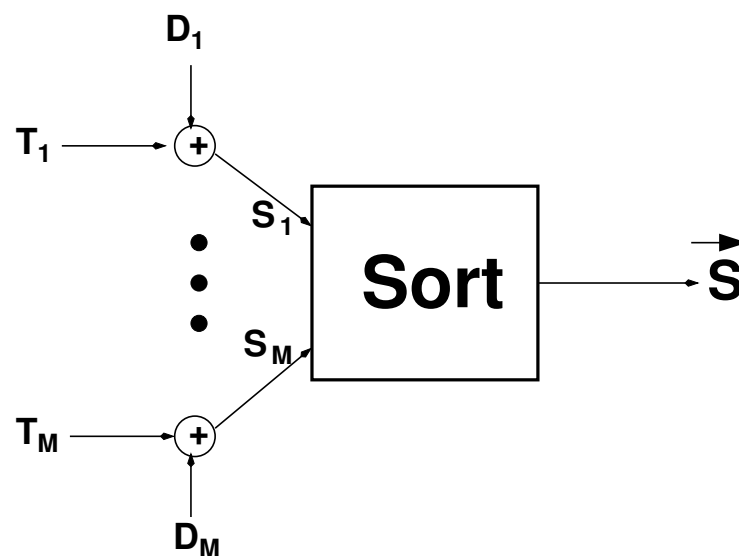


Coding → **Emission** → **Transport** → **Capture** → Decoding

# Mathematical Abstraction

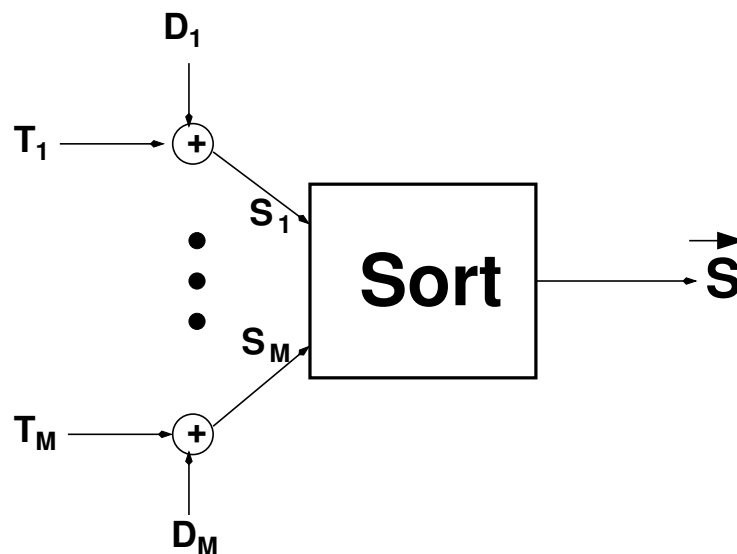


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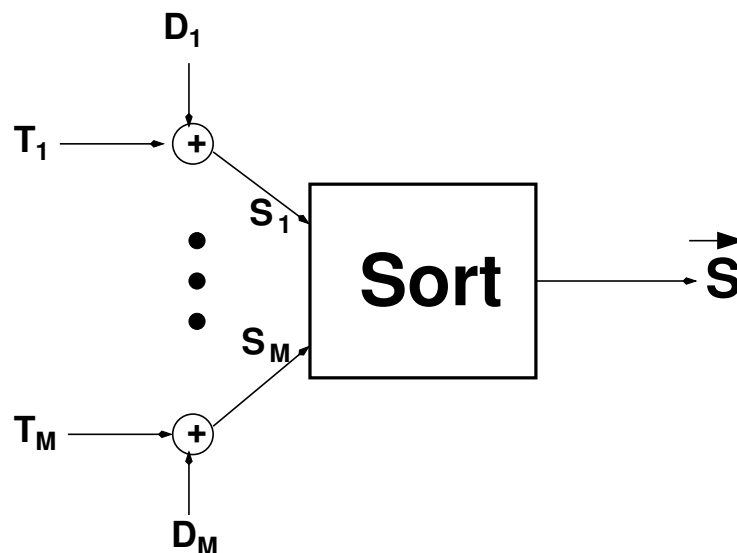
$$S = T + D$$

## Mathematical Abstraction



$$\mathbf{S} = \mathbf{T} + \mathbf{D}$$
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$$\mathbf{S} = \mathbf{T} + \mathbf{D}$$

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First passage time:  $E[D] = 1/\mu$



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$M$  tokens on an interval  $\tau(M)$

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$$I(\vec{\mathbf{S}}; \mathbf{T}) = h(\vec{\mathbf{S}}) - h(\vec{\mathbf{S}}|\mathbf{T}) = ?$$

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## Consider Only Hypersymmetric $\mathbf{T}$

$$\max_{f_{\mathbf{T}}} I(\vec{\mathbf{S}}, \mathbf{T})$$

## More Symmetry

$f_{\mathbf{T}}()$  hypersymmetry  $\rightarrow$   $f_{\mathbf{S}}()$  hypersymmetry

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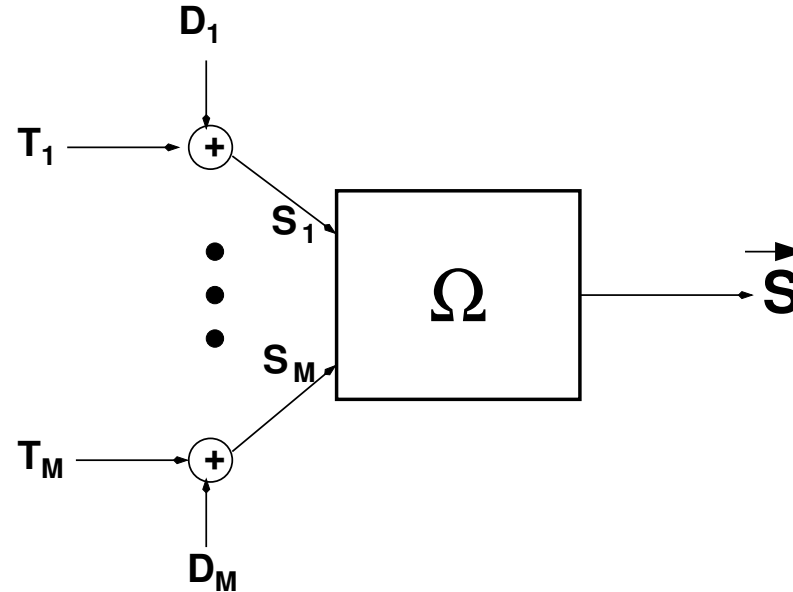
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$$h(\vec{\mathbf{S}}) = h(\mathbf{S}) - \log M!$$

# Channel Redux



$$\mathbf{S} \xRightarrow{\Omega} \mathbf{S}$$

---

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$$I(\vec{\mathbf{S}}; \mathbf{T}) = \underbrace{h(\mathbf{S}) + H(\Omega|\vec{\mathbf{S}}, \mathbf{T})}_{\text{The Money!}} - \underbrace{(\log M! + h(\mathbf{D}))}_{\text{constant}}$$

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$H(\Omega|\vec{\mathbf{S}}, \mathbf{T})$  maximized by correlated  $\mathbf{T}$

$$H(\Omega|\vec{\mathbf{S}}, \mathbf{T}) = \log M!$$

identical launch times  $T_1 = T_2 = \dots = T_M$

## My Past Personal Struggles

😊  $\exists$  closed form results/bounds for  $H(\Omega|\vec{\mathbf{S}}, \mathbf{T})$




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## Channel Use Formalities Handwaving



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## PUNCHLINE

$$\rho \equiv \frac{M}{\text{launch epoch}}$$

all ok if mean first passage time  $E[D] < \infty$

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$$C_m(M) = \frac{1}{M} \max_{f_{\mathbf{T}}(\cdot)} I(\vec{\mathbf{S}}; \mathbf{T})$$

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$$\frac{1}{M} H(\Omega | \vec{\mathbf{S}}, \mathbf{T}) \leq K \leq \frac{1}{M} \log M!$$

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(it's kinda the timing channel's "Gaussian")

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# Timing-Only Bits/Joule

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**Theorem 1.**

$$C_T \geq \frac{1}{c_0} \left( \log \chi + \underbrace{e^{-\frac{1}{\chi}} \sum_{k=2}^{\infty} \left(\frac{1}{\chi}\right)^k (k\chi - 1) \frac{\log k!}{k!}}_{\text{per token order uncertainty}} \right)$$

## Payload-Only Bits/Joule

### Theorem 2.

$$C_P = \frac{B}{c_1 + \Delta c_1 \left( B + \min_{\mathbf{t}} \frac{1}{M} H(\Omega | \vec{\mathbf{S}}, \mathbf{t}) \right)}$$

### Lemma 3.

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## Payload + Timing Bits/Joule Lower Bound

**Theorem 4.**

$$\mathcal{R}_{P+T} \approx \frac{\log \left( 1 + \frac{\chi^M}{e} \right) + B}{c_1 + \Delta c_1 \left( \underbrace{B + e^{-\frac{1}{\chi}} \sum_{k=2}^{\infty} \left( \frac{1}{\chi} \right)^k (k\chi - 1) \frac{\log k!}{k!}}_{\text{per token order uncertainty}} \right)}$$

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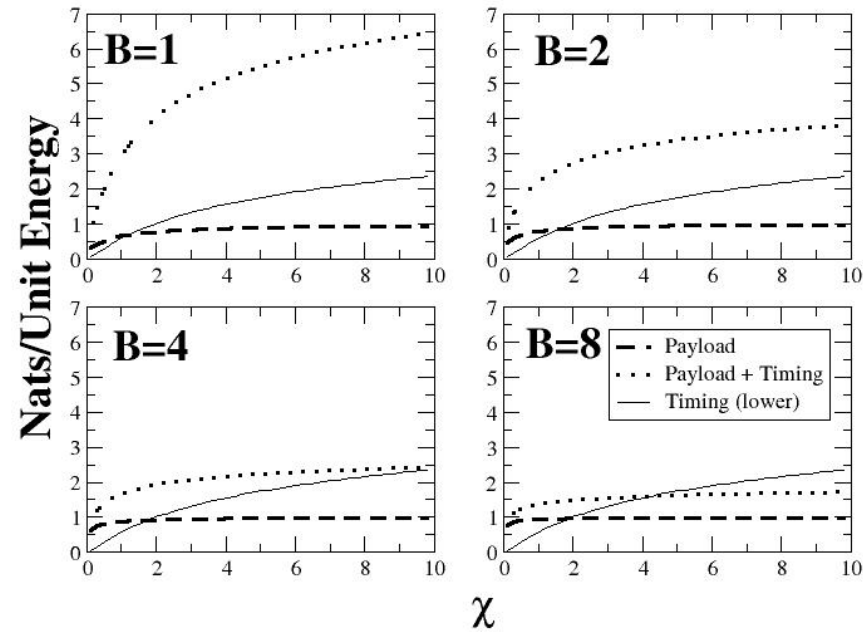
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where  $\mathcal{R}_{P+T} \leq \mathcal{C}_{P+T}$ .

**ASIDE:** dumb header ( $\frac{1}{M} \log M!$ ):  $\mathcal{C}_{P+T} \rightarrow 0$  in  $M$

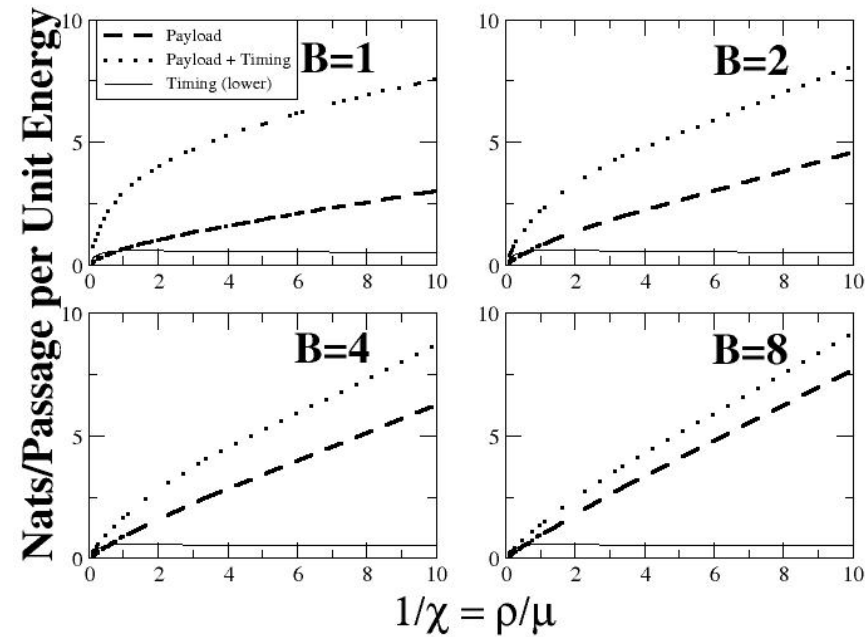
## Info per Unit Energy



$\chi \leftrightarrow$  passage rate per launch rate

$$c_0 = 1, c_1 = 0, \Delta c_1 = 1$$

## Info per Passage per Unit Energy



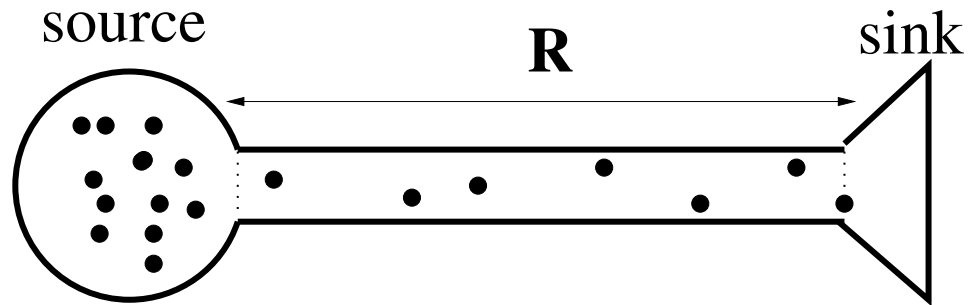
$$\frac{1}{\chi} \leftrightarrow \text{launch rate per passage rate}$$

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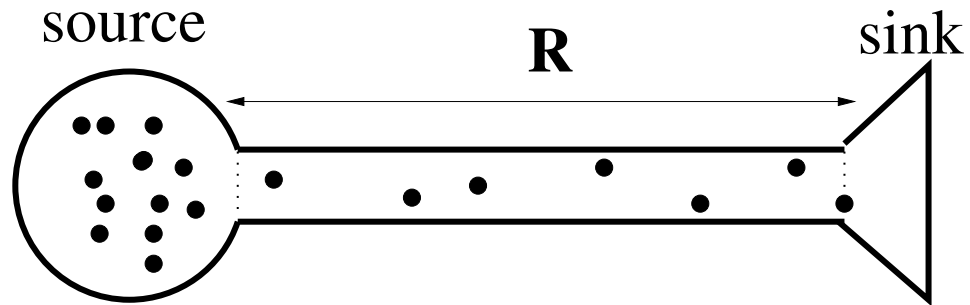


# Play Time Setup

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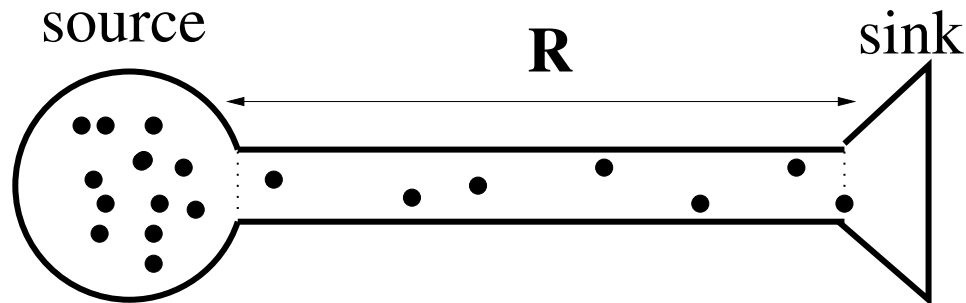


## Play Time Setup



**Protein Token Construction**  $4B\text{ATP} = 3.2B \times 10^{-19} J$

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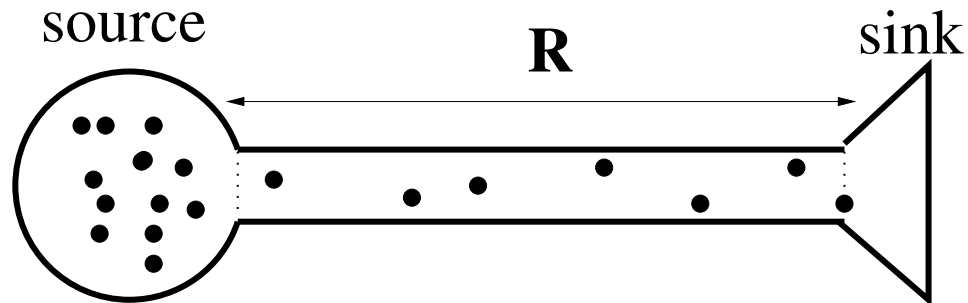


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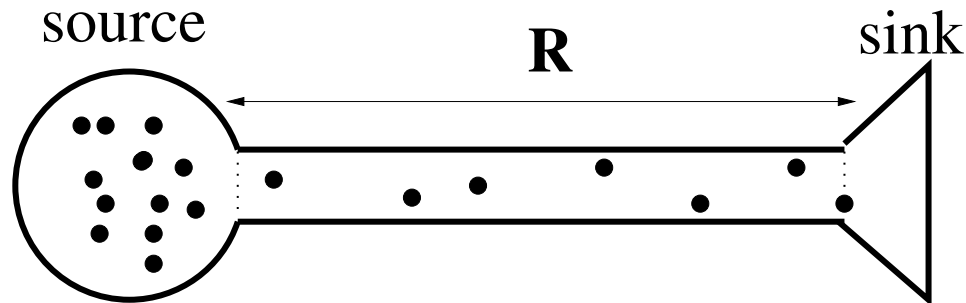
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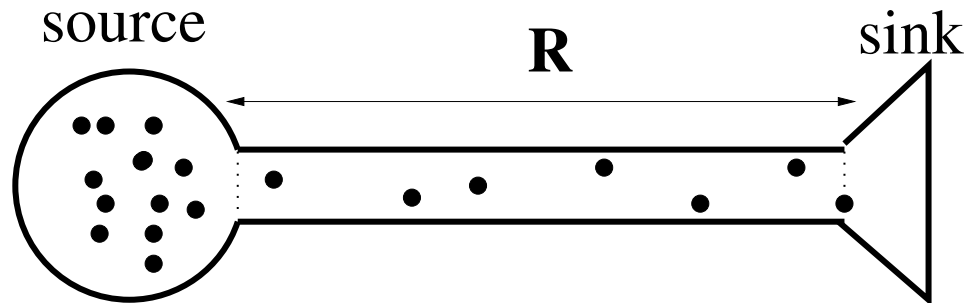
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**Across a table (1m):  $E[D] \approx 14hrs$  (need fan 😊)**

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**Across a synapse:**  $\approx$  Mb/s/attojoule

$$\frac{1}{\chi} = \frac{\rho}{\mu} = 1000 = B:$$

**Across a table:**  $\approx$  Kb/day/femtojoule

**Across a synapse:**  $\approx$  Gb/s/femtojoule

# Tantalizing



## Tantalizing



Suppose token construction energy cost  $\ll$  fan energy cost



## Tantalizing



Suppose token construction energy cost  $\ll$  fan energy cost

**$1\text{mg}$  RNA per second  $\Rightarrow 3.6 \times 10^{18}$  bits/sec**

## Appropriately Awed Response



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# Molecular Communication

## Molecular Communication

# Timing + Payload Framework

## Molecular Communication

# Timing + Payload Framework

## Lower Bounds

## **Molecular Communication**

### **Timing + Payload Framework**

### **Lower Bounds**

### **Need Bit Efficiency?**

## Molecular Communication

### Timing + Payload Framework

### Lower Bounds

### Need Bit Efficiency?

Slow release with timing &/or small payload

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## Molecular Communication

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Fast release with payload + timing or large payload

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## **Scary Efficiencies and Rates**

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## Scary Efficiencies and Rates

(beware transport latency)