

# New Developments in Virtual Tissue Simulation of Tissues



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Tuesday, June 20, 2023

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# Outline



- Background on Virtual Tissues
- Examples of Virtual Tissue Applications
- CompuCell3D (CPM/GGH Models)
- Tissue Forge (Center and Vertex Models)
- Surrogates for Faster Diffusion Solvers

**We've seen several talks (*e.g.* Ruth Baker) applying multicellular agent-based models**

**Talk today about tools to make the construction of such models easier**



# Questions on Tissue Development, Homeostasis, Failure and Control

**Development:** How does a fertilized egg organize into an adult?

**Homeostasis:** How does an organism maintain itself?

**Developmental Diseases:** How does failure of homeostasis lead to pathology?

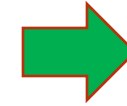
**Infectious Diseases:** How do pathogens and host interact?

**Medicine/Bioengineering:** How can we control, repair or create new forms of these processes?

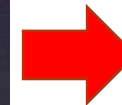
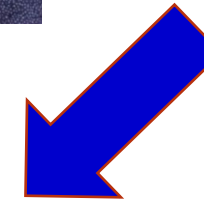
**Toxicology:** How does molecular level perturbation lead to systems level pathology?



<http://www.stanford.edu/group/Urchin/LP/>  
[Lauren Palumbi]



[http://www.kvarkadabra.net/images/articles/Regeneracija-organov\\_1\\_original.jpg](http://www.kvarkadabra.net/images/articles/Regeneracija-organov_1_original.jpg)



***All of these exhibit complex interplay of physical and biochemical mechanism***

***To control we need to be able to predict***



# Multicellular Virtual Tissues



- **Mechanistic Dynamic Agent-Based Multiscale Models**
- **Focus on Emergent Spatiotemporal Phenomena resulting from Interactions between Agents (Objects)**
- **Mechanism driven**
- Additive (start with nothing and add)
- Cell to Organism Focus
- Based on quantitative Submodels of Object Behaviors (Births, Deaths, Forces, Shape Changes and Movements,...)
- Output Spatial Time Series (Movies)

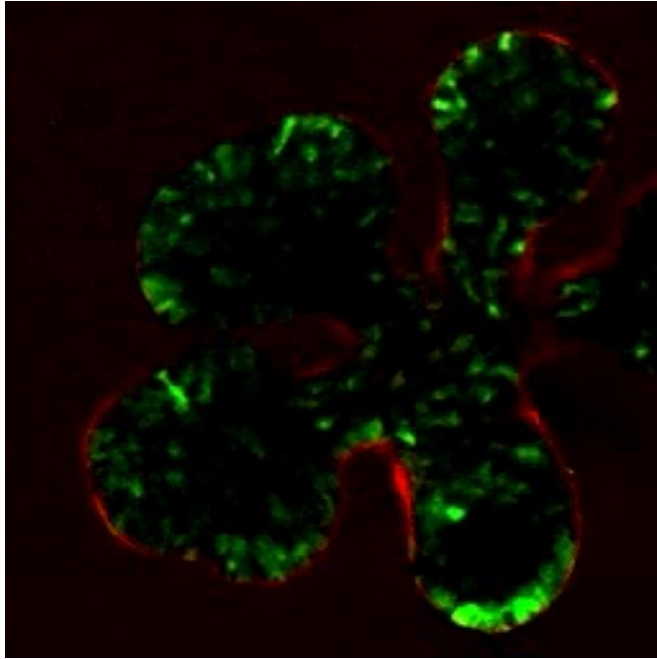






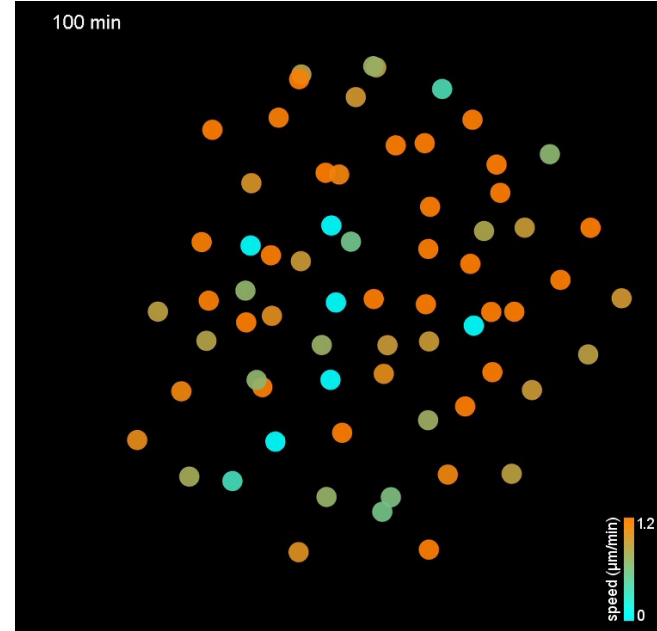
# Biological Organization is Highly Dynamic and Crosses Scales—Development

## Branching Morphogenesis *in vitro*

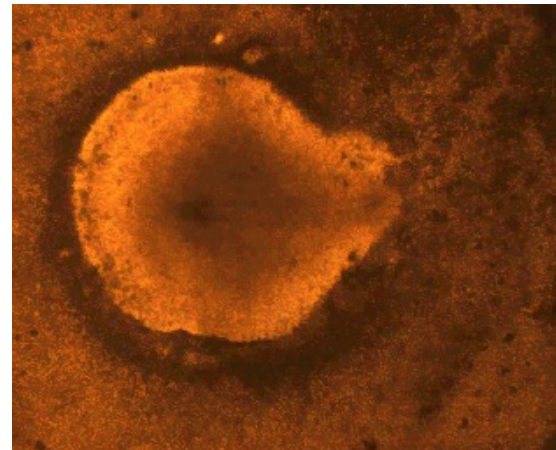


Larsen *et al.*, "Cell and fibronectin dynamics during branching morphogenesis," *Cell Sci* **119**: 3376.

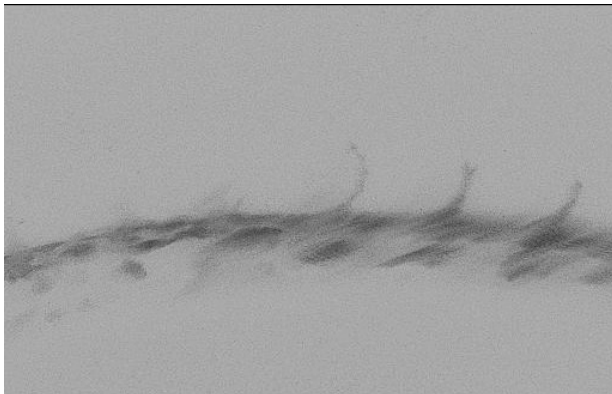
## Early Development of Zebrafish



## Segmentation of Chick Embryo



## Intersegmental Vessel Growth in Zebrafish

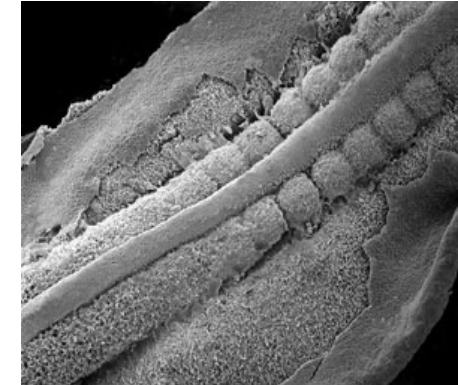
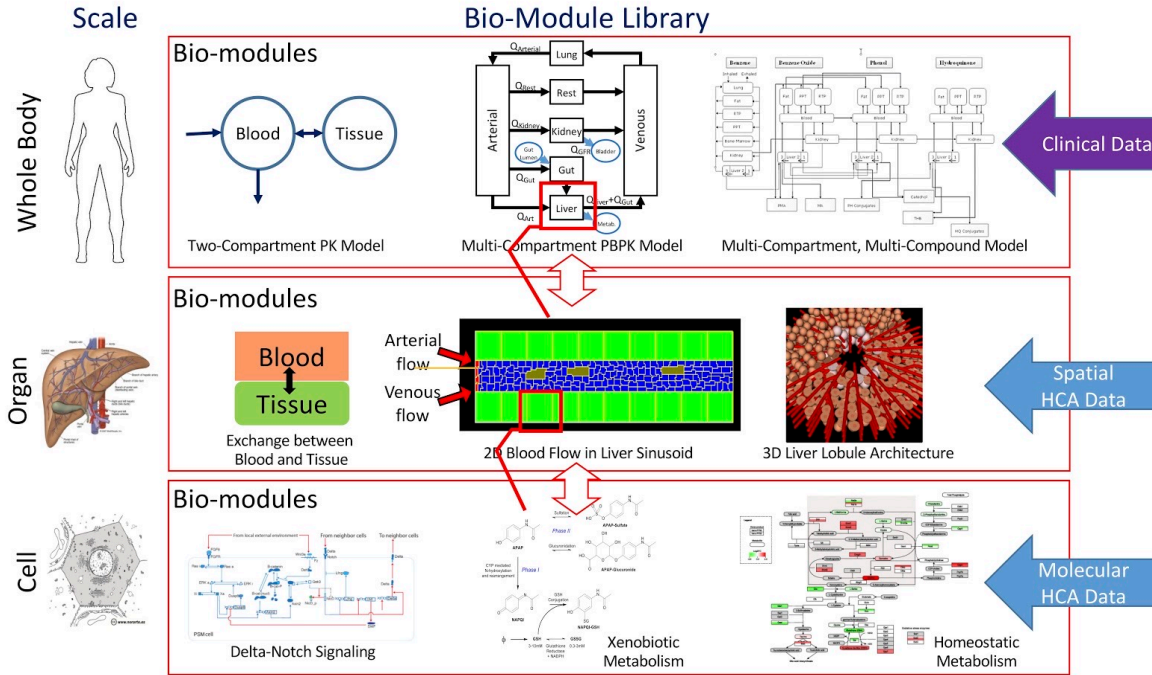


P. J. Keller, *et al.*,  
"Reconstruction of zebrafish early embryonic  
development by scanned light sheet  
microscopy," *Science* **322**, 1065 (2008).

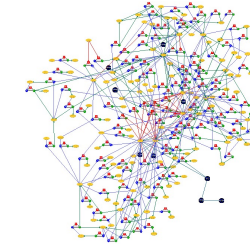


# Virtual Tissues—Cell Behaviors Are Central

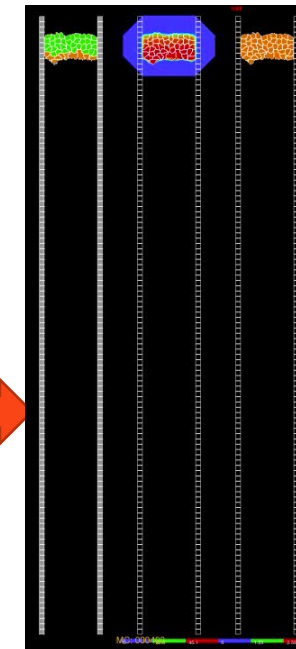
Spatial Computer Simulations to Explain How Interacting Chemical, Physical and Biological Mechanisms lead to Outcomes



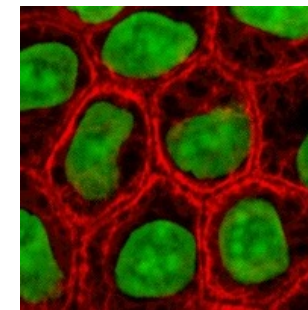
Dynamic Network/  
ODE/Gillespie Level



Diffusive Signaling/  
PDE Level



Virtual Tissues representing individual cells particularly helpful when cells move, change shape or individual cell behaviors are critical: e.g. cancer metastasis, wound healing, neoangiogenesis,...

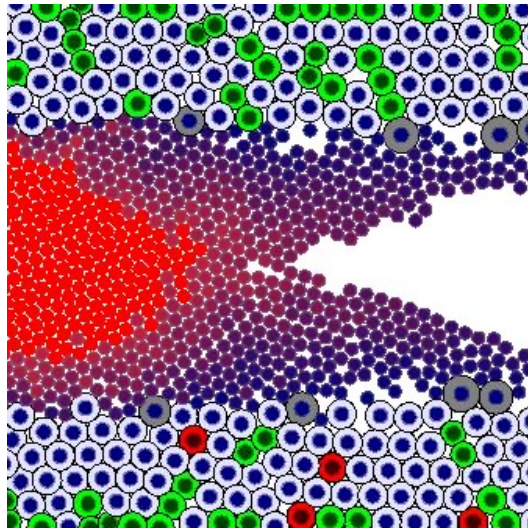


Multi-Cellular/Potts Level

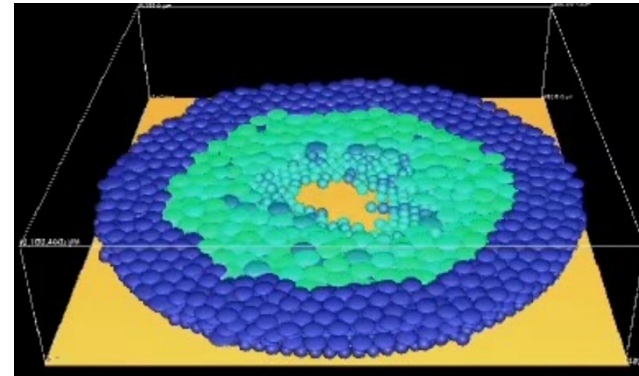




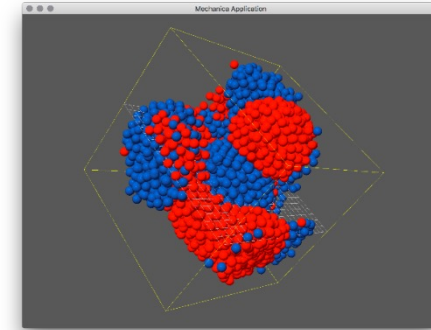
# Many Ways to Represent Cells—Center Models



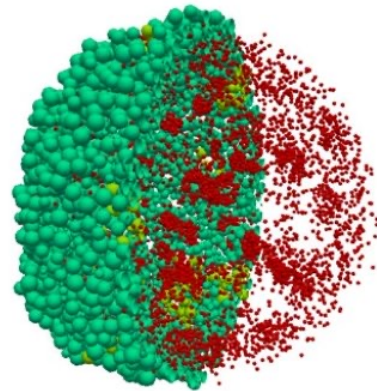
PhysiCell simulation of Ductal Carcinoma in situ (DCIS)



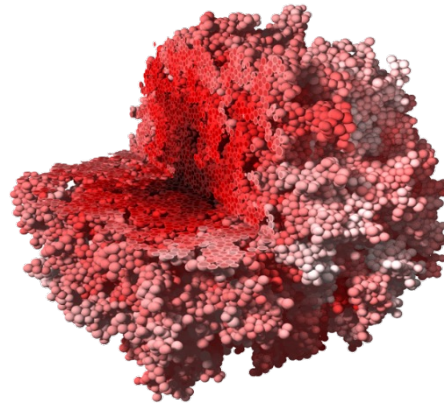
Episim simulation of extending shield mechanism (ESM)



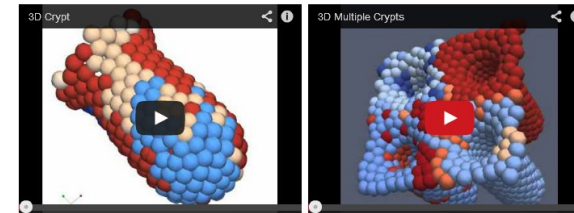
Center-model simulation of cell sorting Using Mechanics, Our New Software



Biocellion simulation of avascular tumor growth



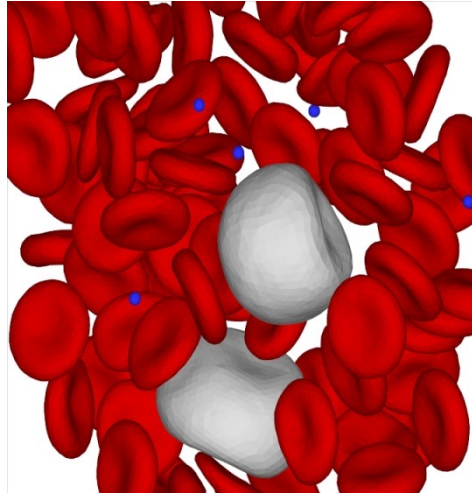
CellSys Simulation of multi-cellular population growth



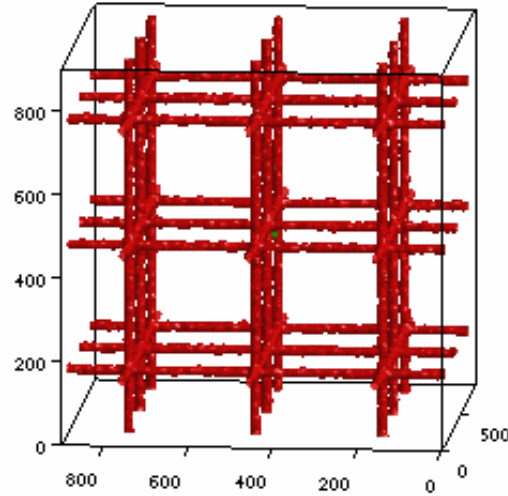
CHASTE simulation of colonic crypts  
<http://www.cs.ox.ac.uk/chaste/>



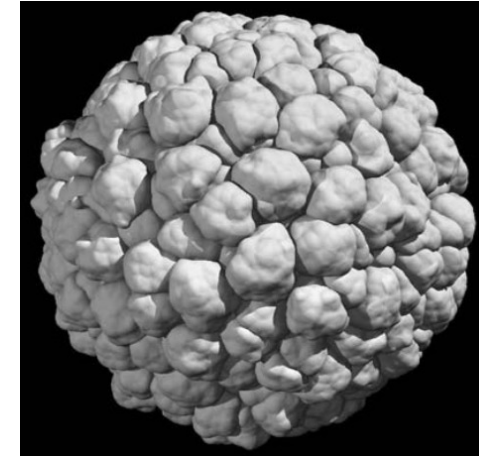
# Many Ways to Represent Cells—Explicit Cell Shape



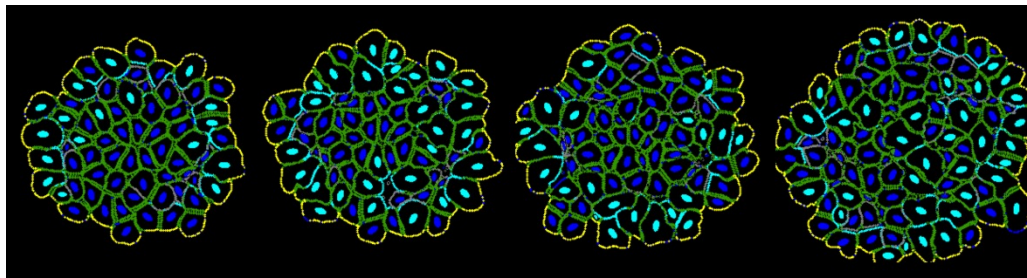
Simulating (Red) Blood Cell morphology, homeostasis and disease, *e.g.* sickle cell anemia, using DPD approach. G Karniadakis Brown University



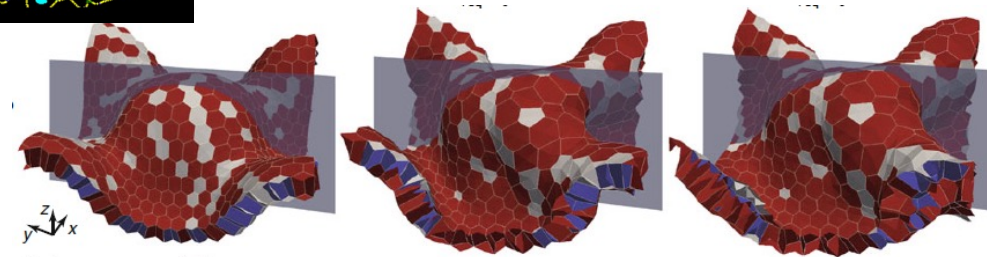
3D Multi-Cell Simulation of Tumor Growth and Angiogenesis using CompuCell3D



Modeling cellular aggregate using SEM, Tim Newman



Modeling tumor growth, Kasia Rejniak, Moffitt Center, Tampa



Modeling epithelial sheets, Satoru Okuda



# Sample Virtual Tissue Applications



Problems addressed range from basic research on fundamental mechanisms of development to cancer modeling, toxicology and drug discovery

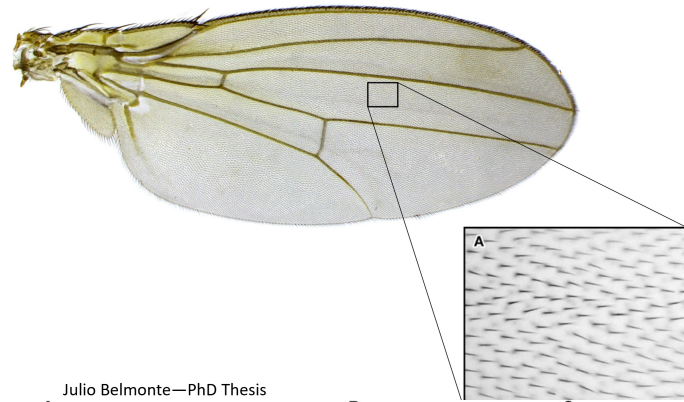




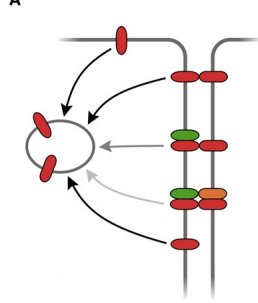
# Drosophila Melanogaster Wing Hair Patterning



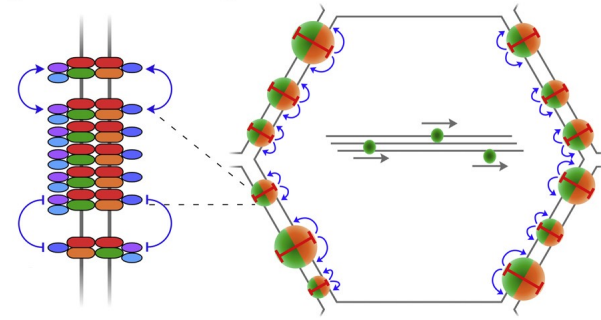
How does the orientation of cell hairs propagate across a growing wing?



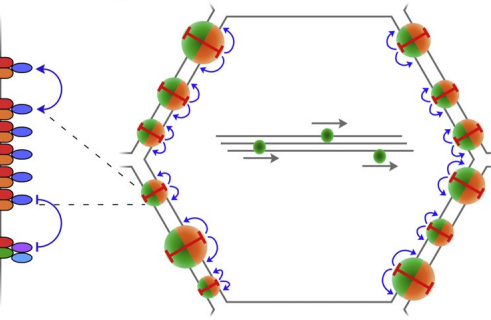
Julio Belmonte—PhD Thesis



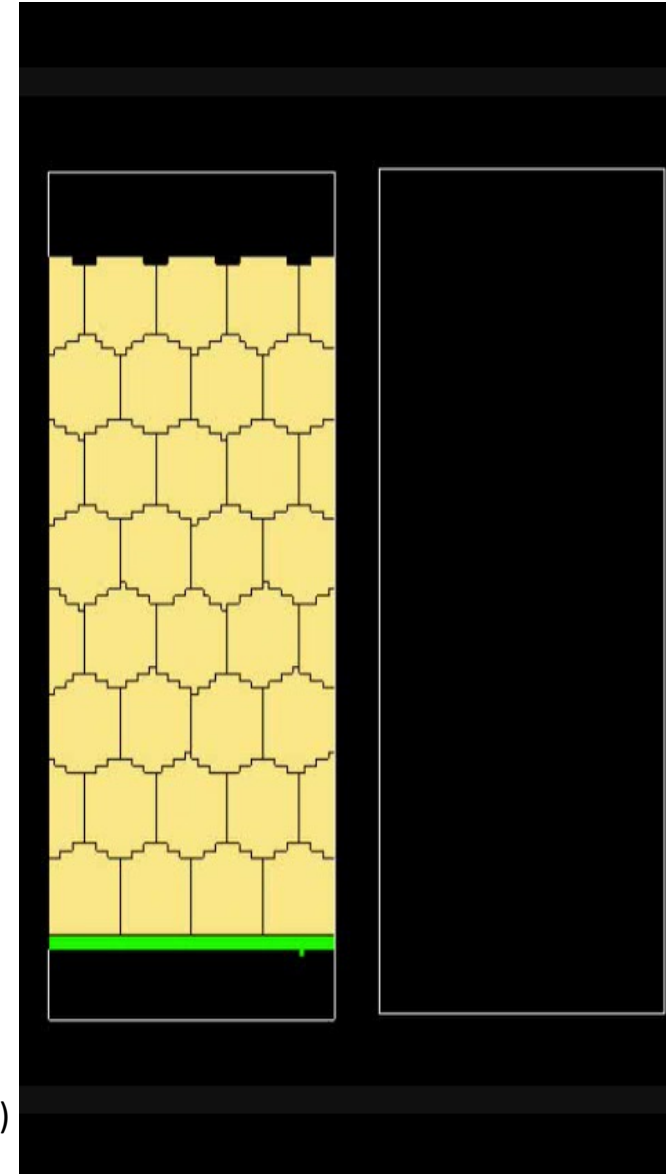
B



C

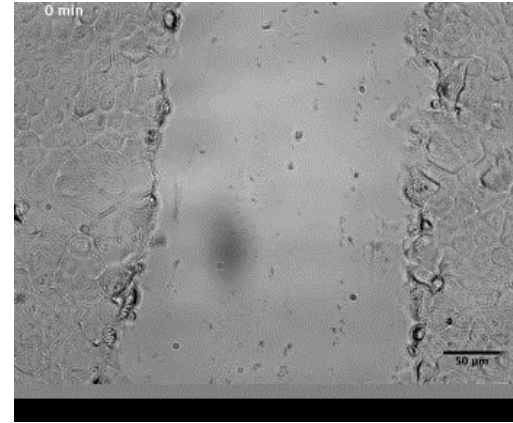
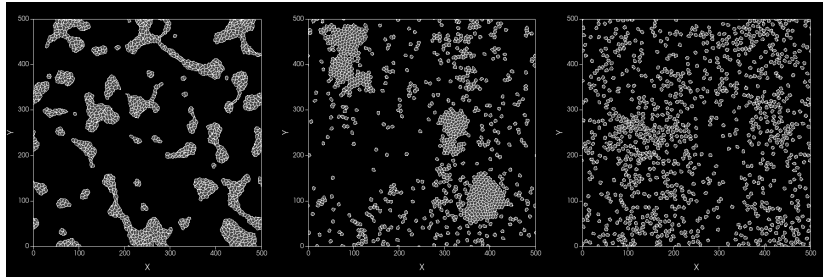


- 6 domain types:
- **Cyto**
- **Lateral**
- **Fmi-Vg**
- **Fmi-Fz**
- **Fmi-Vg-Pk**
- **Fmi-Fz-Dg-Dsh**
- **Fmi-Fz, Fmi-Vg, Lateral** mix at cell surface
- **Fmi-Fz – Fmi-Vg** (weakly across cells)
- Signal – **Fmi-Vg** → Signal – **Fmi-Vg-Pk**
- **Fmi-Vg-Pk** *repels* **Fmi-Fz**
- **Fmi-Fz** → **Fmi-Fz-Dg-Dsh**
- **Fmi-Fz-Dg-Dsh** *signals to* **Fmi-Vg** (on other cell)



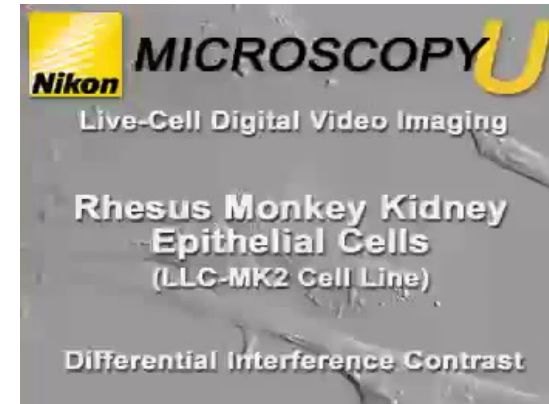
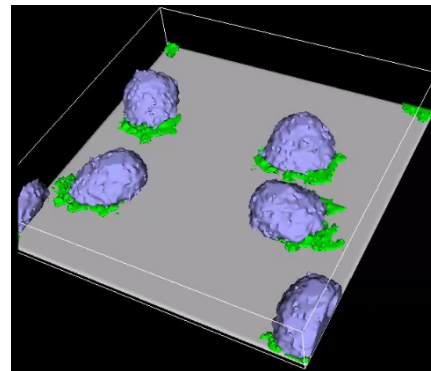
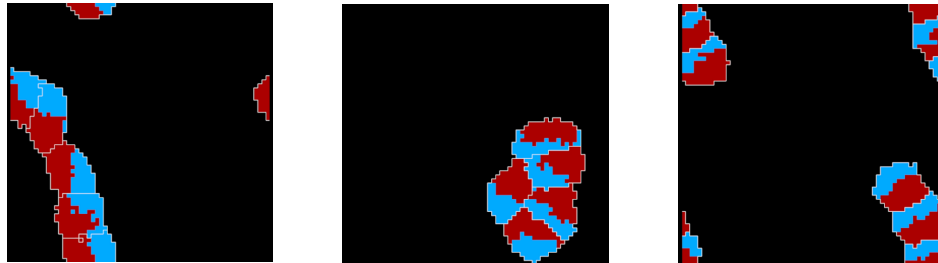
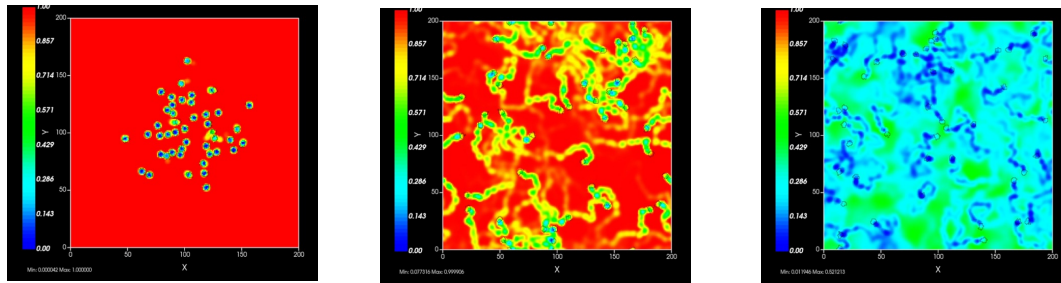


# Modeling Collective Cell Migration in CompuCell3D



Wound healing

Megha Vaman Rao  
(2016)  
10.1091/mbc.E16-06-0429



<https://www.microscopyu.com/galleries/popups/diverter?s=rhesus-monkey-kidney-epithelial-cells-llc-mk2-line>



Juliano F. Gianlupi, Gilberto L. Thomas, Pedro Cenci Dal-Castel



# Capillary Development



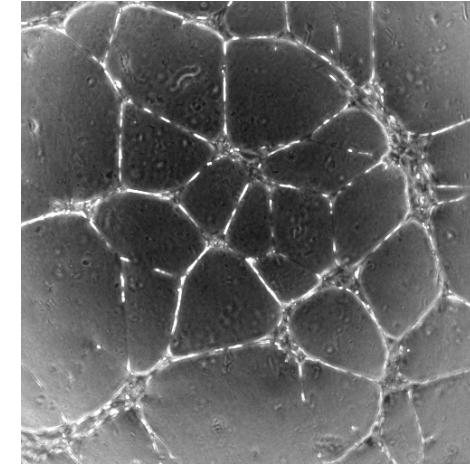
## Biological System

Umbilical Vein Endothelial Cells (HUVECs) on Matrigel

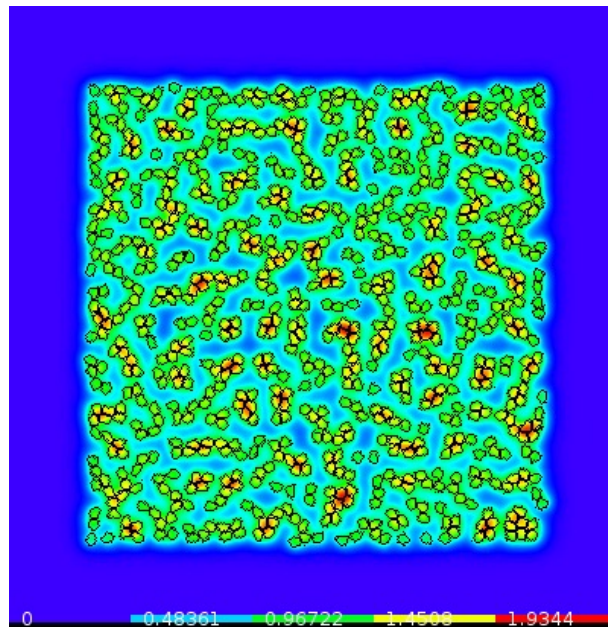
What Mechanisms give rise to these patterns?

Result: Very Short-Range Chemotaxis + Contact Inhibition can explain both angiogenesis and vasculogenesis.

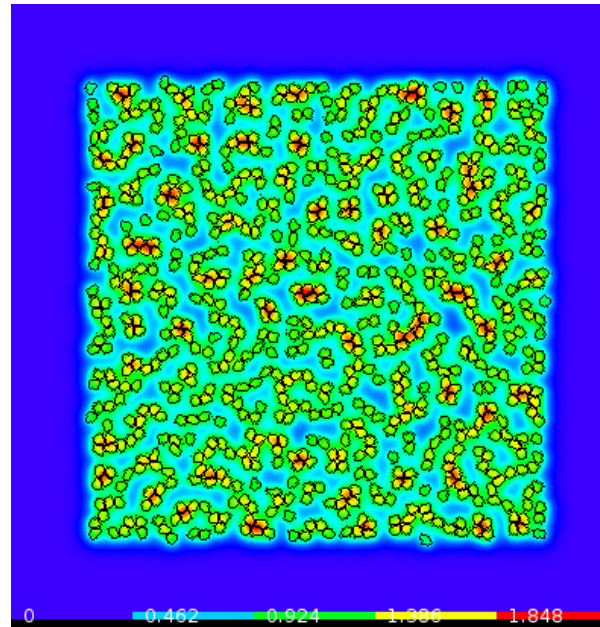
Works in 2D and 3D.



Movie 1: D. Ambrosi et al., Phys. Rev. Letters **90**, 118101



No Contact Inhibition



Contact Inhibition

D. Ambrosi et al., Phys. Rev. Letters **90**, 118101

## Key Physics:

Cell Diffusion

VEGF-A Diffusion

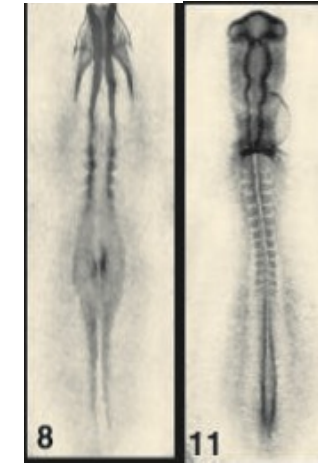
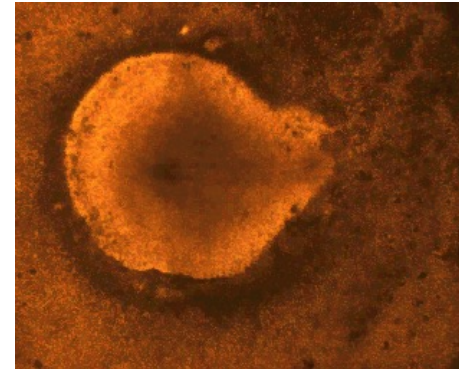
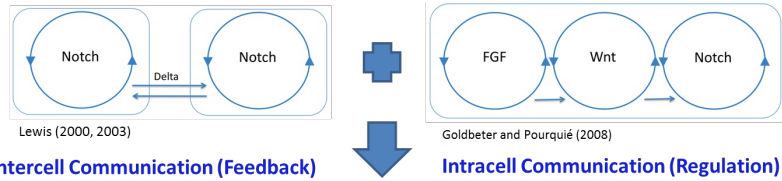
Chemical Potential Response of Cells

(Constant Pressure –Liquid Like vs Variable Pressue)

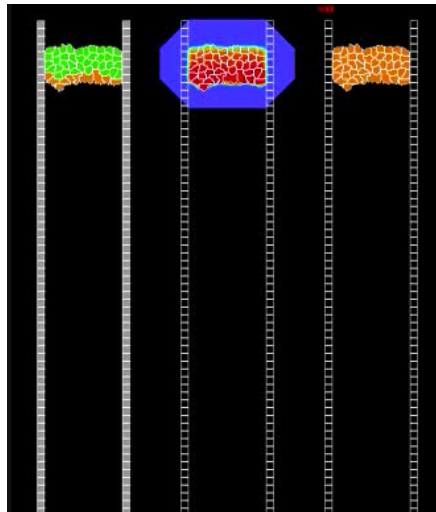
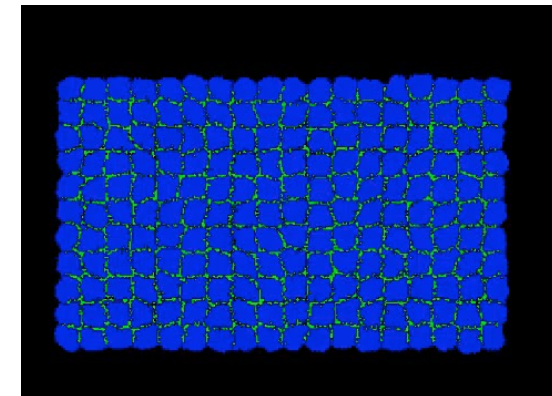
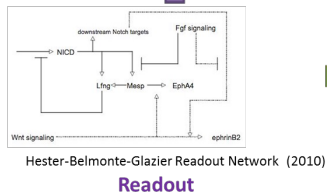
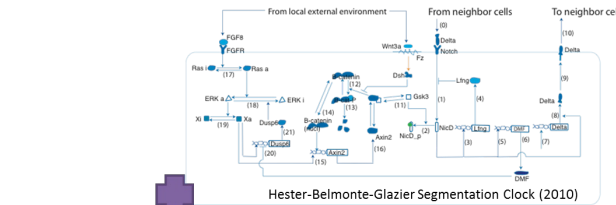


# Segmentation

How does the periodic pattern of the vertebrae form in the early embryo?

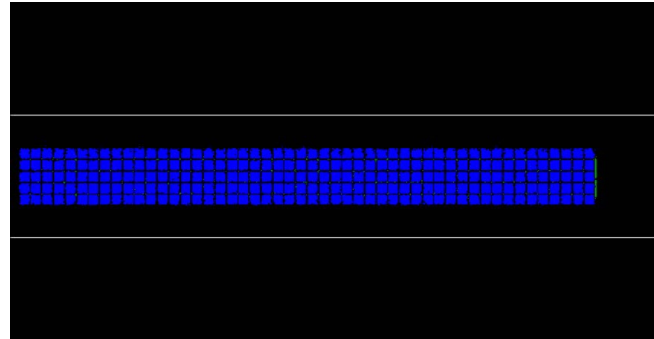


HH staged chick embryos, fixed (Wiley)



Hester SD, *et al.* (2011). A Multi-cell, Multi-scale Model of Vertebrate Segmentation and Somite Formation. *PLoS Comput Biol* 7, e1002155. doi:10.1371/journal.pcbi.1002155

S. Dias AS, *et al.* (2014). Somites Without a Clock. *Science* 343, 791-795.

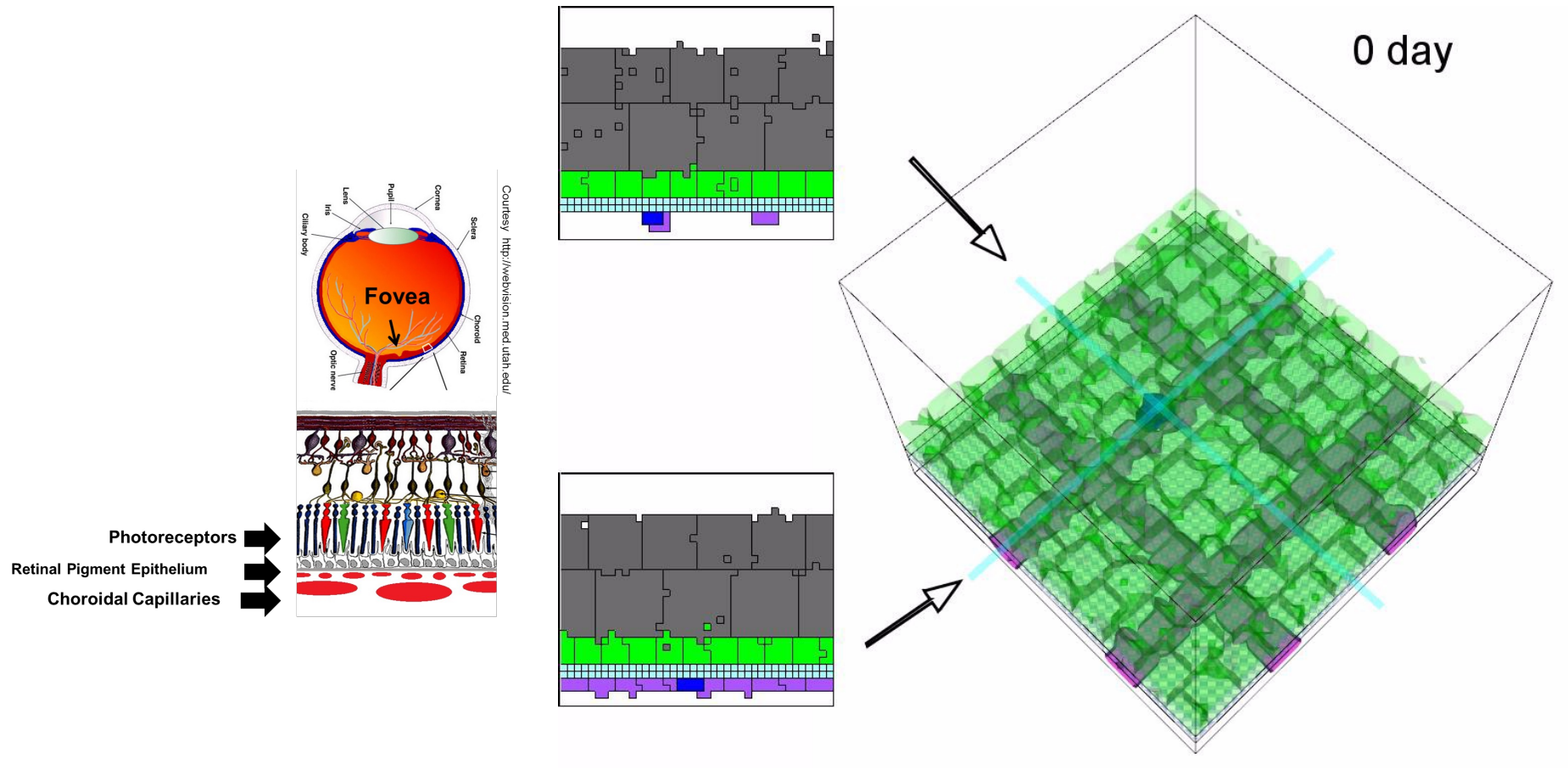




# Why do blood vessels sometimes invade the retina during aging?



## Model of Choroidal Neovascularization (CNV) in Wet Aged-Related Macular Degeneration (AMD)



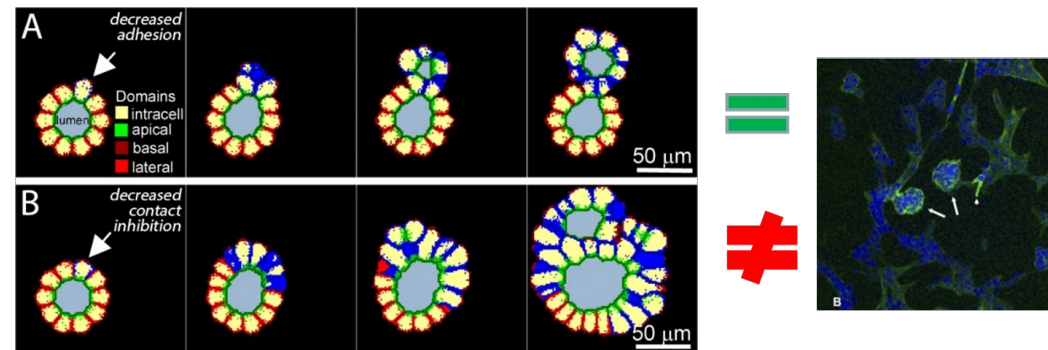
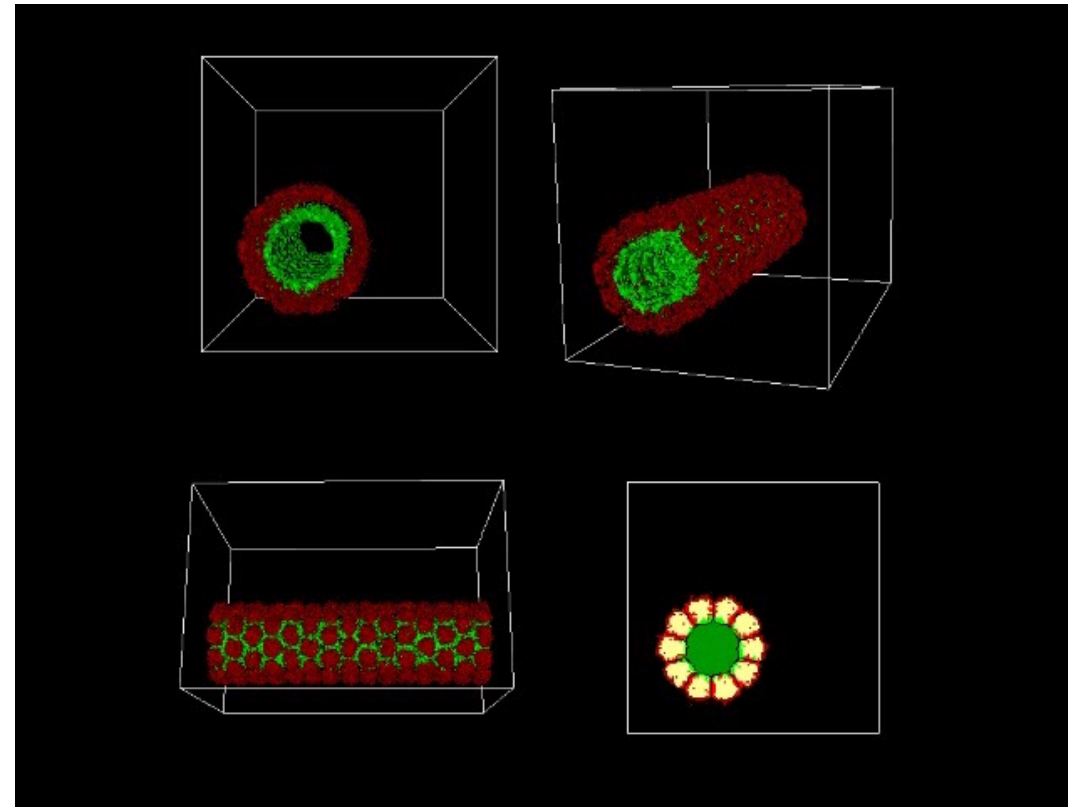
Shirinifard A, Glazier JA, Swat M, Gens JS, Family F, *et al.* (2012) **Adhesion Failures Determine the Pattern of Choroidal Neovascularization in the Eye: A Computer Simulation Study.** *PLoS Comput Biol* 8: e1002440. doi:10.1371/journal.pcbi.1002440



# What causes some people to suffer from uncontrolled and lethal overgrowth of their kidneys?

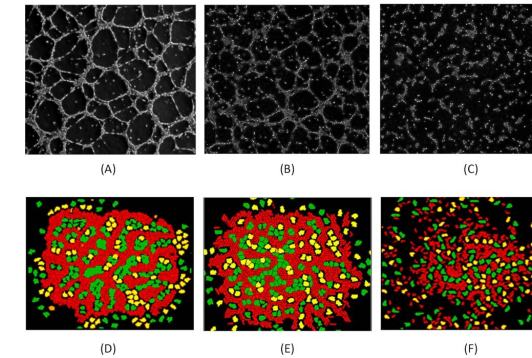
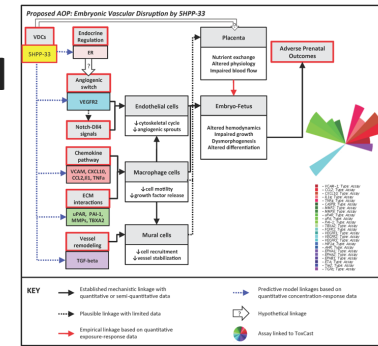
## Model of ADPKD - Autosomal Dominant Polycystic Kidney Disease

Belmonte JM, Clendenon SG, Oliveira GM, Swat MH, Greene EV, Jeyaraman S, Glazier JA, Bacallao RL, **Virtual-Tissue Computer Simulations Define the Roles of Cell Adhesion and Proliferation in the Onset of Kidney Cystic Disease**, *Molecular Biology of the Cell* (2016), doi: 10.1091/mbc.E16-01-0059

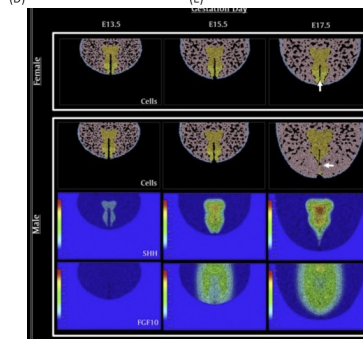
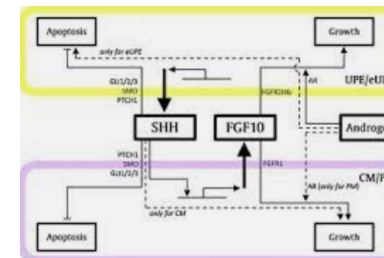


# Developmental Toxicology Studies Using CompuCell3D

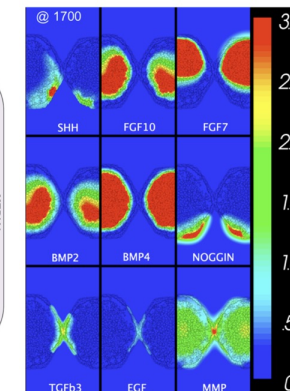
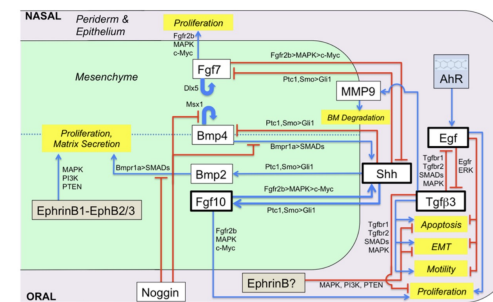
N Kleinstreuer, *et al.*, **A computational model predicting disruption of blood vessel development.** *PLoS computational biology* 9 (2013), e1002996.



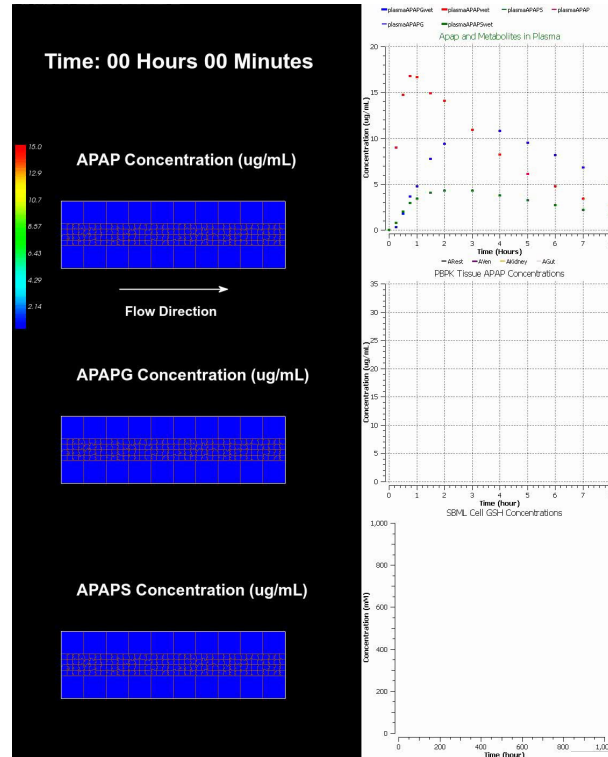
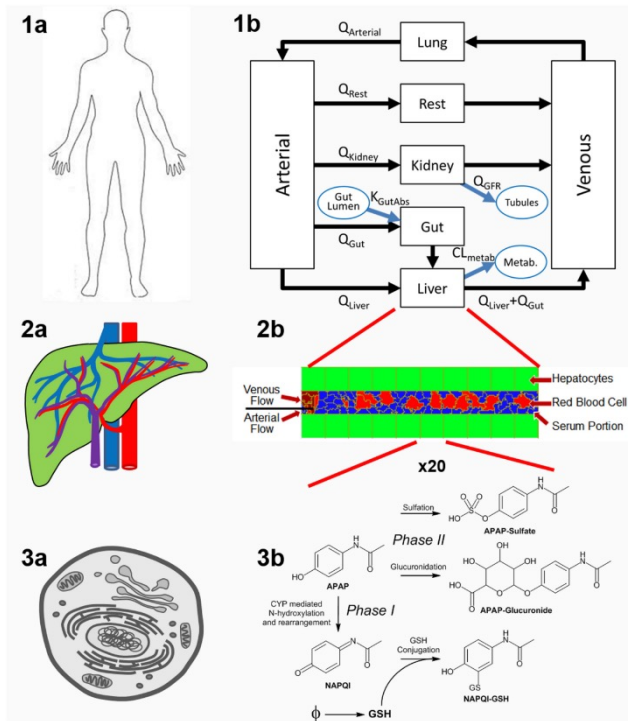
MC Leung, *et al.*, **Computational modeling and simulation of genital tubercle development.** *Reproductive Toxicology* 64, (2016) 151-161.



MS Hutson, *et al.*, **Computational Model of Secondary Palate Fusion and Disruption.** *Chemical Research in Toxicology* 30 (2017), 965-979, DOI: 10.1021/acs.chemrestox.6b00350



# Hepatotoxicity: Simulation of Xenobiotic Uptake, Distribution, Metabolism, Clearance and Damage



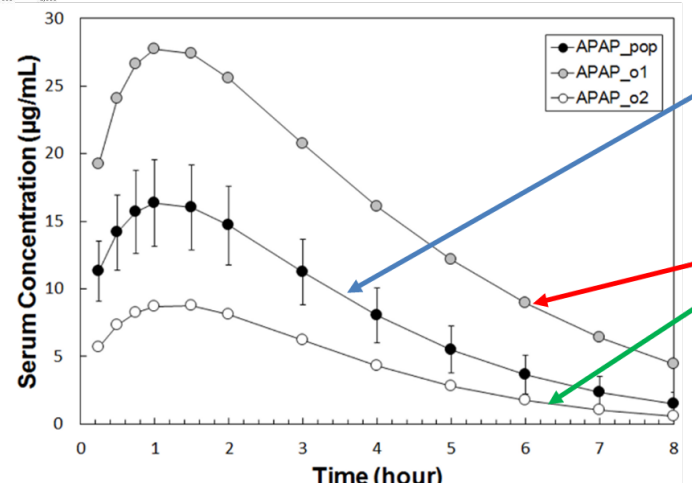
JP Sluka, et al., "A Liver-Centric Multiscale Modeling Framework for Xenobiotics," *PLoS ONE* **11** (2016), e0162428

X Fu, et al., "Modeling of xenobiotic transport and metabolism in virtual hepatic lobule models," *PLoS ONE* **13** (2018), e0198060

KW Dunn, et al., "Mitochondrial depolarization and repolarization in the early stages of acetaminophen hepatotoxicity in mice," *Toxicology* **439**, 152464 (2020)

## Validation of the model using human data on serum concentration of acetaminophen and its metabolites

Critchley *et al.* 2005. "Differences in the single-oral-dose pharmacokinetics and urinary excretion of paracetamol and its conjugates between Hong Kong Chinese and Caucasian subjects."



The average population response and its variance agree with clinically measured variability in ADME data for APAP

Outliers have greatly different serum concentrations, both higher and lower



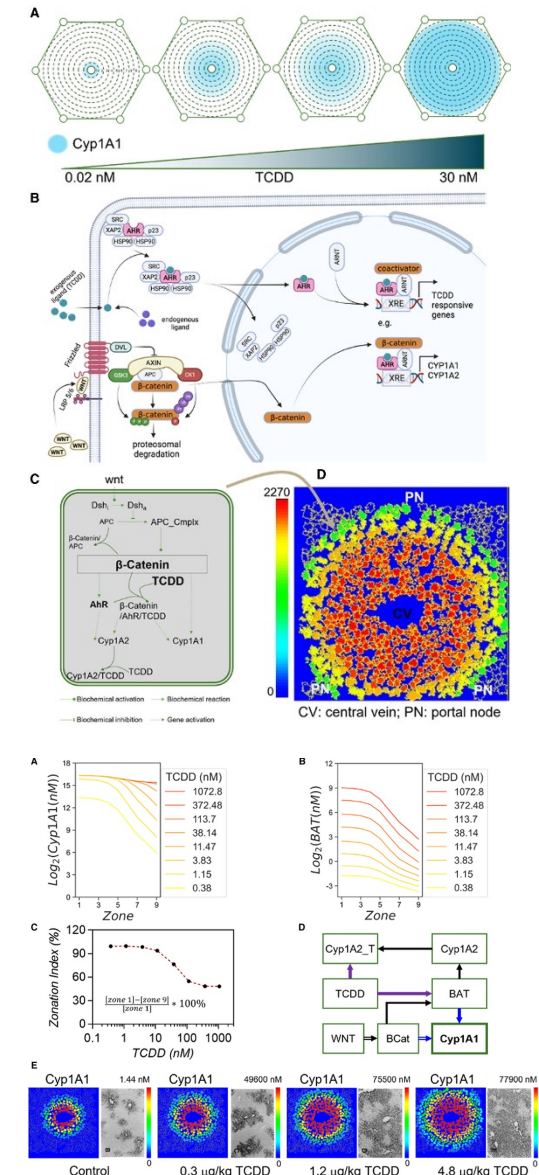


# Computational Toxicology

## Studies Using CompuCell3D—Liver Zonation

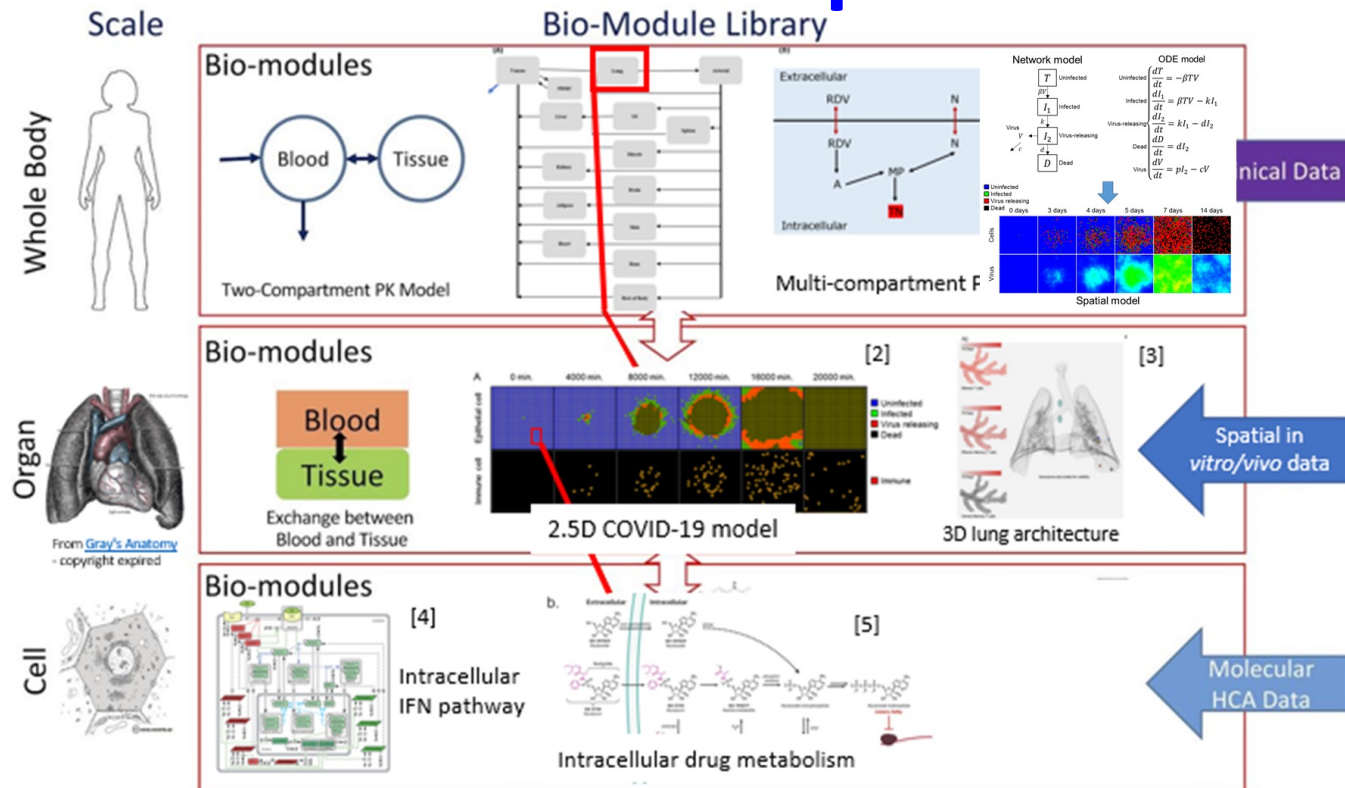
Y Yang, *et al.*, A Negative Feedback Loop and Transcription Factor Cooperation Regulate Zonal Gene Induction by 2, 3, 7, 8-Tetrachlorodibenzo-*p*-Dioxin in the Mouse Liver. *Hepatology communications* 6 (2022) 750-764.

The cytochrome P450 (Cyp) proteins Cyp1A1 and Cyp1A2 are strongly induced in the mouse liver by the potent environmental toxicant 2, 3, 7, 8-tetrachlorodibenzo-*p*-dioxin (TCDD), acting through the aryl hydrocarbon receptor (AHR). **The induction of Cyp1A1 is localized within the centrilobular regions of the mouse liver at low doses of TCDD, progressing to pan-lobular induction at higher doses.** Even without chemical perturbation, metabolic functions and associated genes are basally zoned in the liver lobule along the central-to-portal axis. To investigate the mechanistic basis of spatially restricted gene induction by TCDD, we have developed a multiscale computational model of the mouse liver lobule with single-cell resolution. **The spatial location of individual hepatocytes in the model was calibrated from previously published high-resolution images.** A systems biology model of the network of biochemical signaling pathways underlying Cyp1A1 and Cyp1A2 induction was then incorporated into each hepatocyte in the model. Model simulations showed that a negative feedback loop formed by binding of the induced Cyp1A2 protein to TCDD, together with cooperative gene induction by the  $\beta$ -catenin/AHR/TCDD transcription factor complex and  $\beta$ -catenin, help produce the spatially localized induction pattern of Cyp1A1. Although endogenous WNT regulates the metabolic zonation of many genes, it was not a driver of zonal Cyp1A1 induction in our model.



# Using Agent-Based Models to Explore the Effects of Spatial Heterogeneity on Infection and Immune Response

- Sego, Aponte-Serrano, Gianlupi, Glazier, *BMC Biol.*, 2021
- ODE models well describe many biological phenomena but only tell part of a story
  - *E.g.*, in predator-prey, where are the predators and the prey?
- A complete picture of many biological problems involves modeling processes at multiple scales
  - *E.g.*, from subgenomic viral replication to population dynamics
- Cellularization: relating spatiotemporal, multicellular models to non-spatial ODE models
- ABMs can improve clinical application of drugs by exploring the multicellular scale and heterogeneity among cells



T. J. Sego, .... "Generation of multicellular spatiotemporal models of population dynamics from ordinary differential equations, with applications in viral infection." *BMC biology* **19** (2021): 1-24.

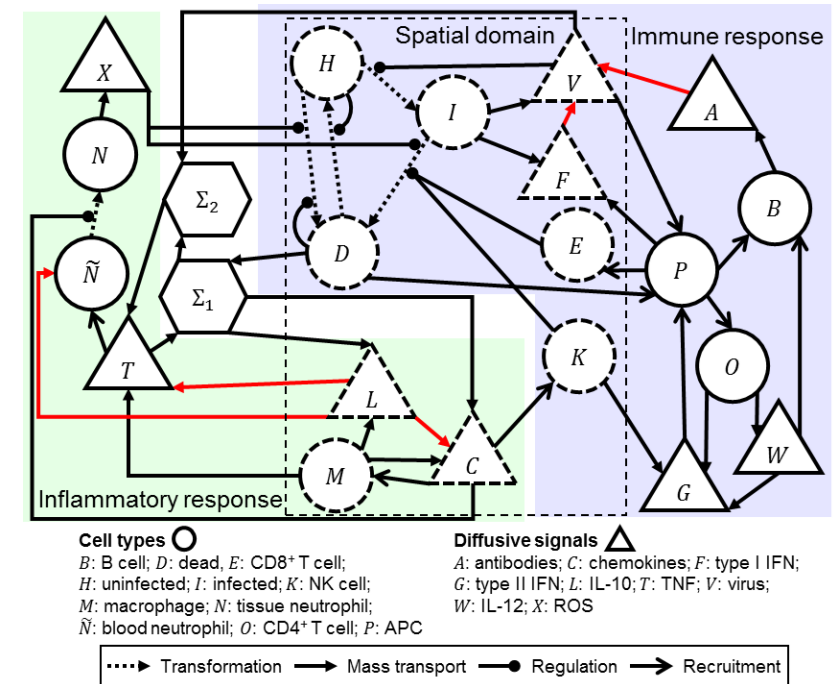
T. J. Sego, .... "A multiscale multicellular spatiotemporal model of local influenza infection and immune response." *JTVB* **532** (2022): 110918.

J Ferrari Gianlupi, T.... "Multiscale Model of Antiviral Timing, Potency, and Heterogeneity Effects on an Epithelial Tissue Patch Infected by SARS-CoV-2." *Viruses* **14** (2022): 605.



# Constructing an Immune Response Model Based on a Validated Network Model of Influenza

- Seigo, Mochan, Ermentrout, Glazier. *J. Theor. Biol.*, 2022
- Cell types
  - Antigen-presenting cell, B cell, CD4<sup>+</sup> and CD8<sup>+</sup> T cell, epithelial, macrophage, natural killer, blood and tissue neutrophils
- Species
  - Antibodies, chemokines, types I and II interferons, interleukins 10 and 12, tumor necrosis factor, reactive oxygen, virus



Schematic of cellularized influenza model.

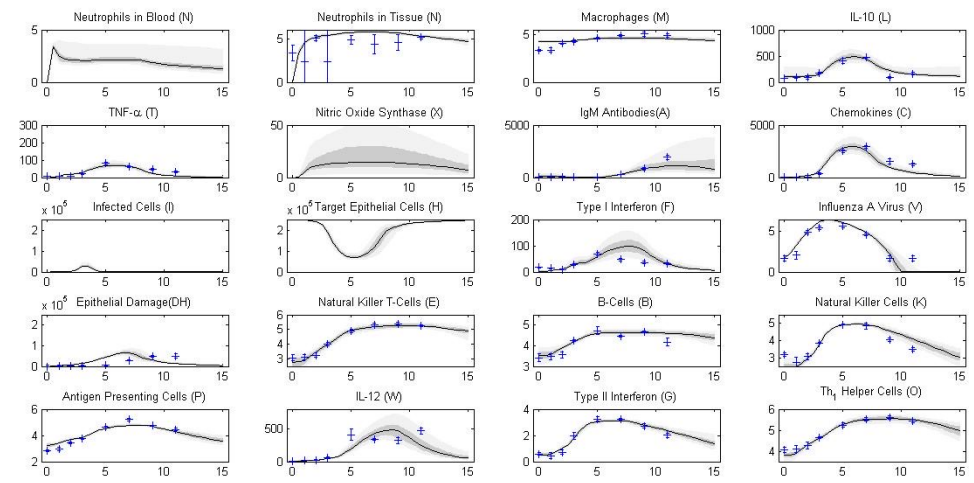
$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d\tilde{N}}{dt} &= \frac{b_{nt}T}{a_{nt} + a_{nl}L + T} - \frac{g_{nc}\tilde{N}C}{C + a_{nc}} - \mu_n\tilde{N} \\ \frac{dN}{dt} &= \frac{g_{nc}\tilde{N}C}{C + a_{nc}} - \mu_nN \\ \frac{dM}{dt} &= \frac{b_{mc}C^{h_m}}{C^{h_m} + a_{mc}^{h_m}} - \mu_m(M - b_m) \\ \frac{dL}{dt} &= \frac{b_lM\Sigma_1}{\Sigma_1 + \frac{g_1L+g_2}{L+d_2}} - \mu_l(L - b_lh(1-R)H) \\ \frac{dT}{dt} &= \frac{b_lM\Sigma_2}{\Sigma_2 + \left(\Sigma_2 + \frac{g_1L+g_2}{L+d_2}\right)\left(\frac{k_2+Lk_1}{L+d_1}\right)} - \mu_tT \\ \frac{dX}{dt} &= \frac{b_{xn}N}{N + a_{xn}} - g_{xi}IX - g_{zh}HX - \mu_xX \\ \frac{dA}{dt} &= b_a + b_{ab}B - g_{av}AV - \mu_aA \\ \frac{dC}{dt} &= \frac{b_cM\Sigma_1}{\Sigma_1 + \frac{g_1L+g_2}{L+d_2}} - \mu_cC \\ \frac{dI}{dt} &= g_{hv}VH - \frac{g_{ix}IX^{h_x}}{X^{h_x} + a_{ix}^{h_x}} - g_{ik}RIK - g_{ie}RIE - \mu_i(1-R)I \\ \frac{dH}{dt} &= \frac{b_h(1-R)HD(H-\theta)}{\text{total cells}} - g_{hv}VH - \frac{g_{hx}HX^{h_x}}{X^{h_x} + a_{hx}^{h_x}} \\ \frac{dF}{dt} &= b_{fi}(1-R)I + b_{fp}P - g_{fi}IF - \mu_fF \\ \frac{dV}{dt} &= g_{vi}(1-R)I - g_{vh}HV - g_{va}VA - \frac{g_vV}{1+a_vV} - \mu_vV \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{dDH}{dt} &= \frac{g_{hx}HX^{h_x}}{X^{h_x} + a_{hx}^{h_x}} - \frac{b_h(1-R)HDH(H-\theta)}{\text{total cells}} \\ \frac{dE}{dt} &= \frac{b_{ep}P^{h_e}}{P^{h_e} + a_{ep}^{h_e}} - b_{ei}RIE - \mu_eE \\ \frac{dB}{dt} &= b_b + b_{bp}WP(b_0 - B) - \mu_bB \\ \frac{dK}{dt} &= \frac{b_{kc}C^{h_k}}{C^{h_k} + a_{kc}^{h_k}} - g_{ki}RIK - \mu_k(K - b_k) \\ \frac{dP}{dt} &= p_0 \left( \frac{g_{pv}V}{(a_{pv} + V)} + g_{pi}DI \right) \left( g_p + \frac{b_{pg}G}{a_{pg} + G} \right) - \mu_p(P - b_p) \\ \frac{dW}{dt} &= \frac{b_{wo}O}{(a_{wo} + O)} P - \mu_wW \\ \frac{dG}{dt} &= \frac{b_{go}W}{a_{go} + W} O + \frac{b_{gk}W}{a_{gk} + W} K - \mu_gG \\ \frac{dO}{dt} &= \frac{b_{op}P^{h_o}}{P^{h_o} + a_{op}^{h_o}} - \mu_oO \end{aligned}$$

$D = \text{total cells} - H - I$   
 $\Sigma_1 = a_{11}T + a_{12}D$   
 $\Sigma_2 = \Sigma_1 + \frac{a_{21}V}{a_{22} + V}$   
 $DI = \text{total cells} - H - I - DH$   
 $R = \frac{F}{a_{rf} + F}$

Price, Mochan et. al, J Theor. Biol., 2015

## Experimental Validation of Network Model

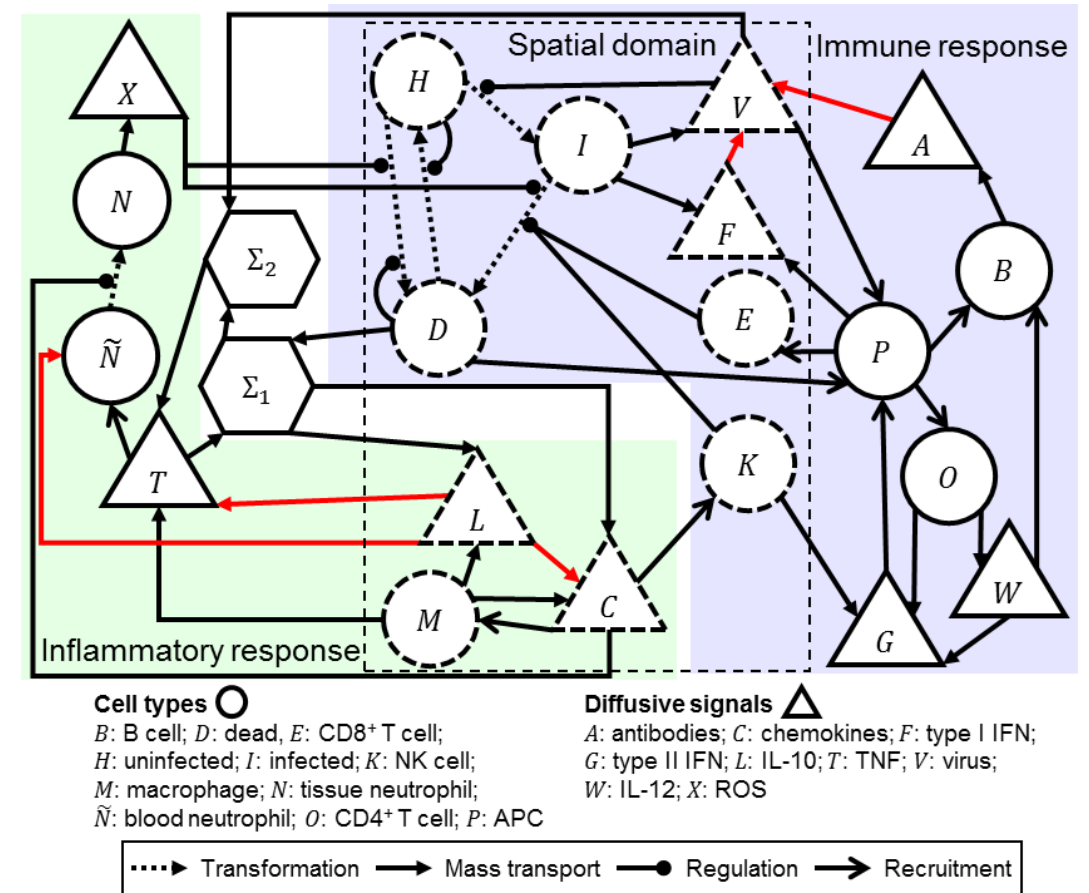


Price, Mochan et. al, J Theor. Biol., 2015



# Influenza Model Overview

- Spatial model: local site of infection
- Spatial cell types:
  - CD8<sup>+</sup> T cell, epithelial, macrophage, NK cell
- Spatial species:
  - Chemokines, type I IFN, IL-10, virus
  - Assumed homogeneous: antibodies, ROS
- Organism-level cell types:
  - APC, B cell, CD4<sup>+</sup> T cell, blood and tissue neutrophil
- Organism-level species:
  - Type II IFN, TNF, IL-12

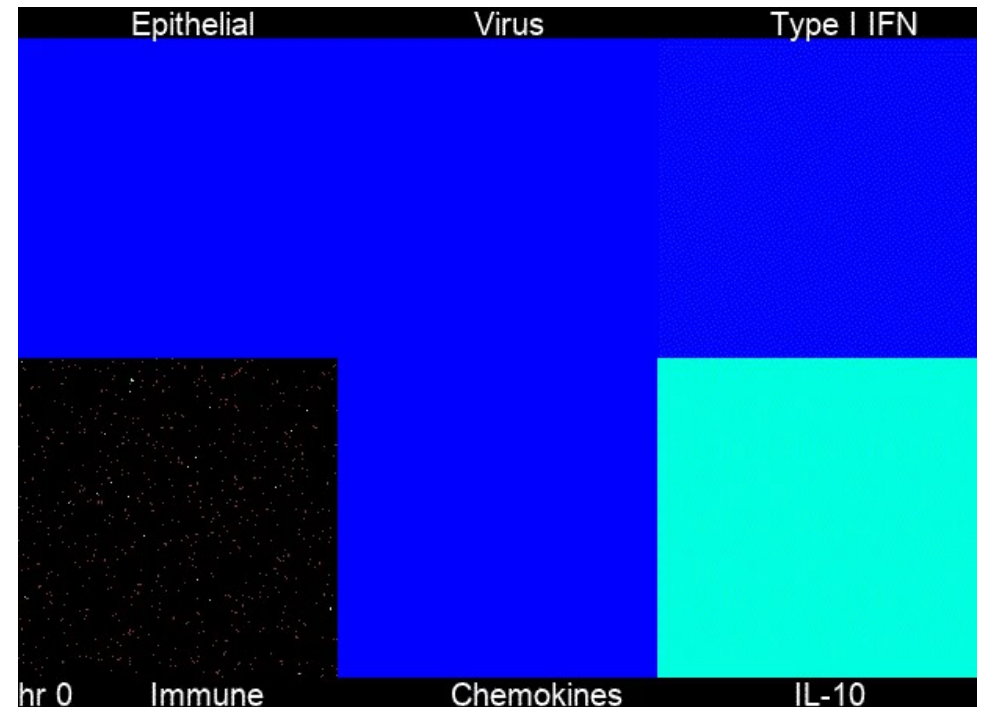
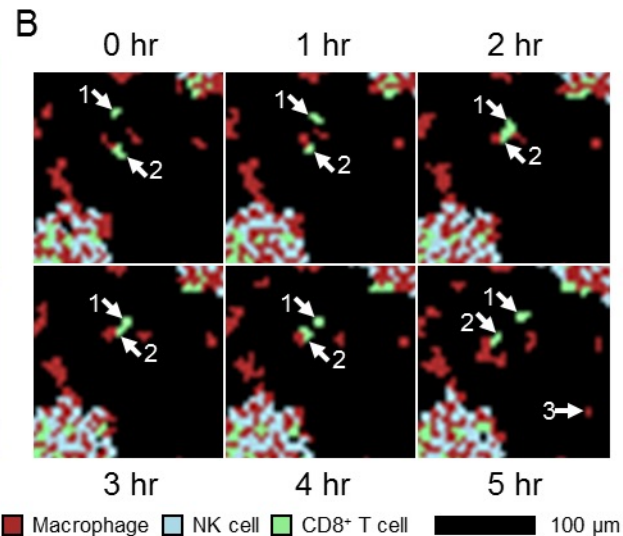
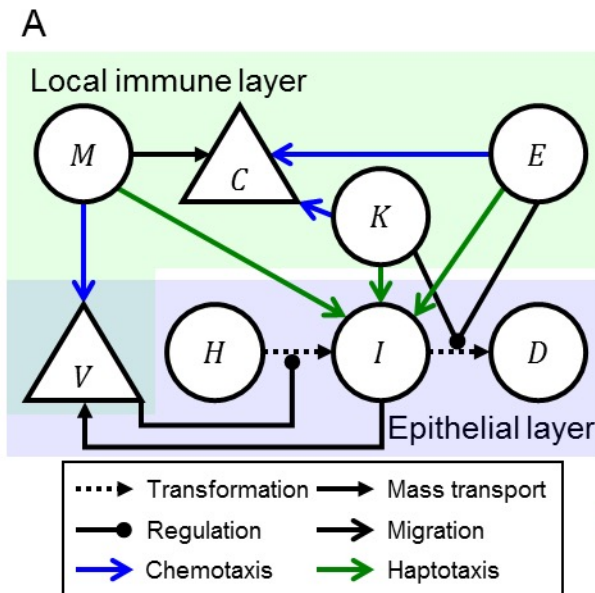




# Introducing Cell Locomotion Absent in Homogeneous Model

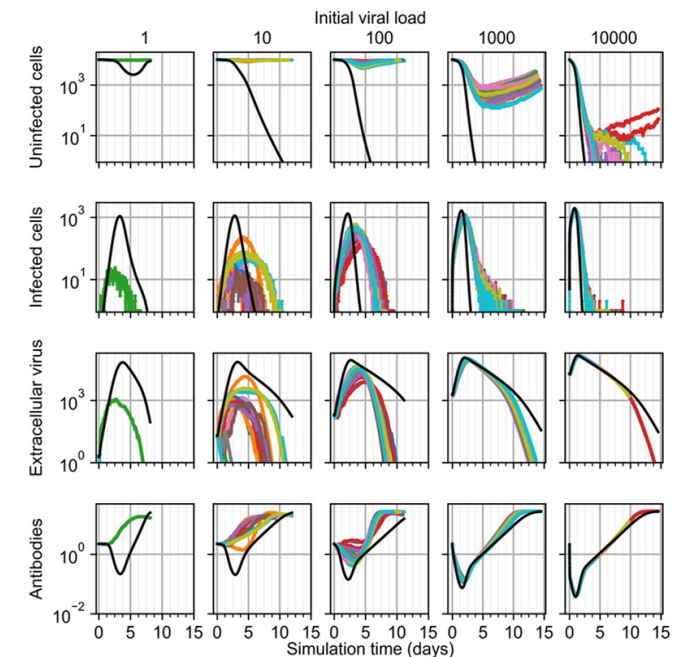
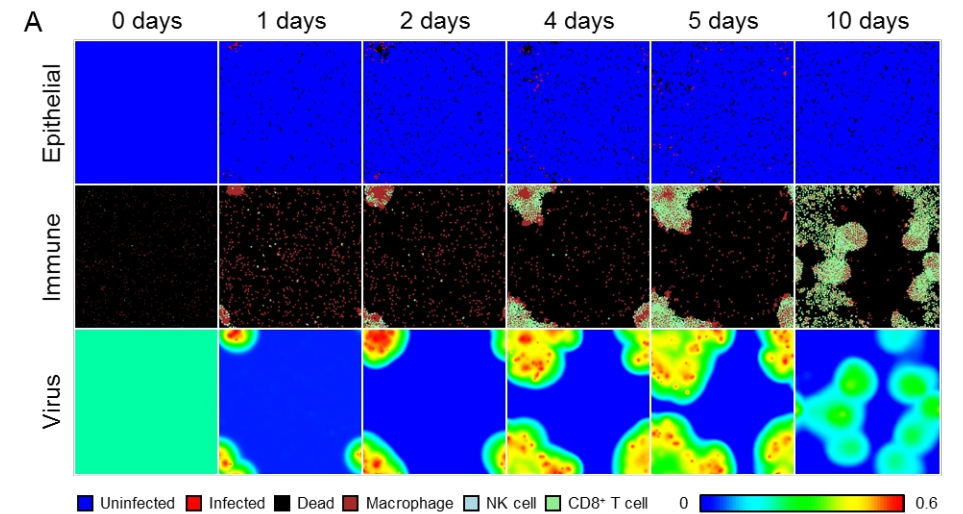
- Non-spatial model: NK and CD8<sup>+</sup> T cells kills by virtue of existing
- NK and CD8<sup>+</sup> T cells kill by contact-mediated interactions
- Macrophages phagocytose virus and release inflammatory recruitment signals

- Chemotaxis
  - Infected cells release virus: recruits macrophages
  - Macrophages release chemokines: recruits NK and CD8<sup>+</sup> T cells
- Haptotaxis
  - Infected cell targeting: preferential attachment of immune cells to infected cells
  - Prevent excessive aggregation: preferential attachment of heterotypic immune cell contacts



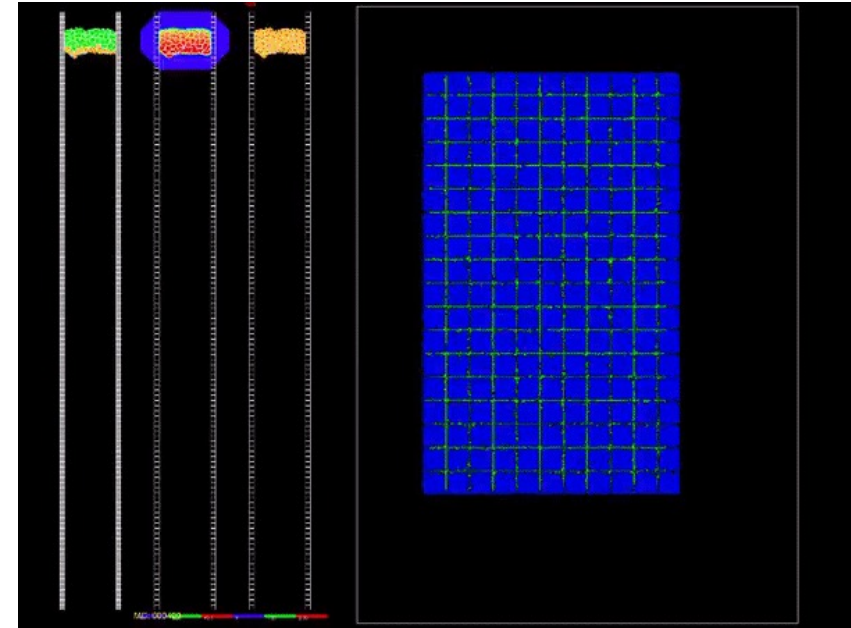
# Disagreement Between Non-spatial and Spatial Models

- Published scenario of calibrated non-spatial model: initial viral exposure and lethal outcome
- Spatial implementation: uniform non-zero initial virus
- **Spatial model predicts less spread of infection and more recovery compared to Homogeneous Model for equivalent parameters**
- **Only recover ODE result for very high MOI and high diffusion constants**

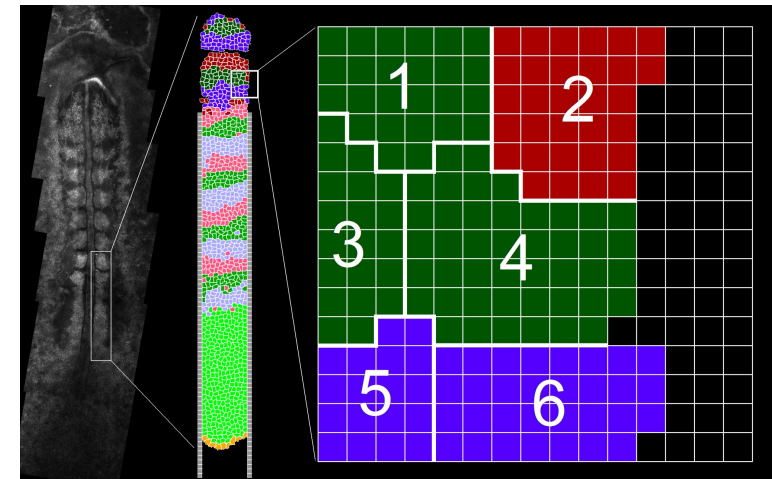


## Potts-based multicellular simulation

- Cell-based, stochastic, multicellular modeling (Cellular Potts Model)
- Open source, simulations can be proprietary
- Allows researchers to develop models themselves without requiring excessive computational expertise
- Recent improvements making CC3D more usable in cluster/HPC contexts and making it Python callable so it can be integrated into optimization or sensitivity analysis workflows
- Can call other (Python) packages from
- On-line web-based execution at <https://nanohub.org/tools/cc3dbase4x>
- Download at <https://compuCell3d.org/>



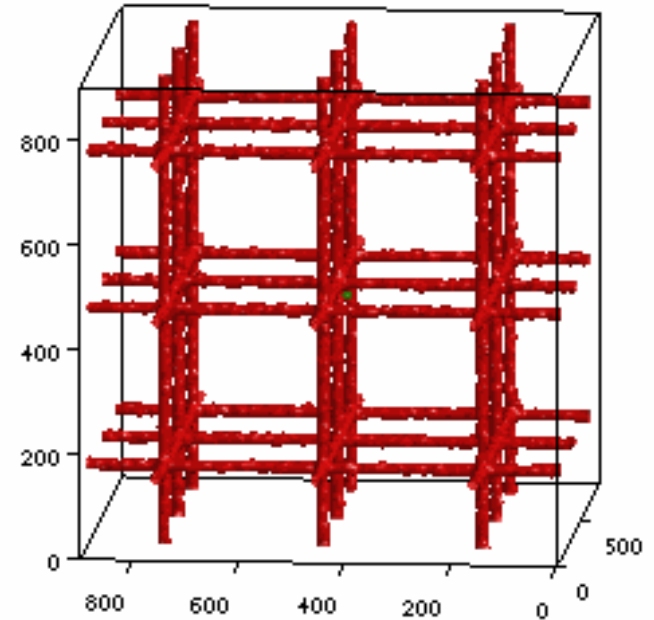
CC3D simulation of somitogenesis



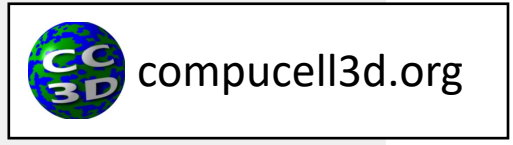




- CompuCell3D has been used for dozens of applications over the last two decades
  - Somitogenesis
  - Tumor progression
  - Polycystic kidney disease
  - Host-pathogen interactions during viral infection

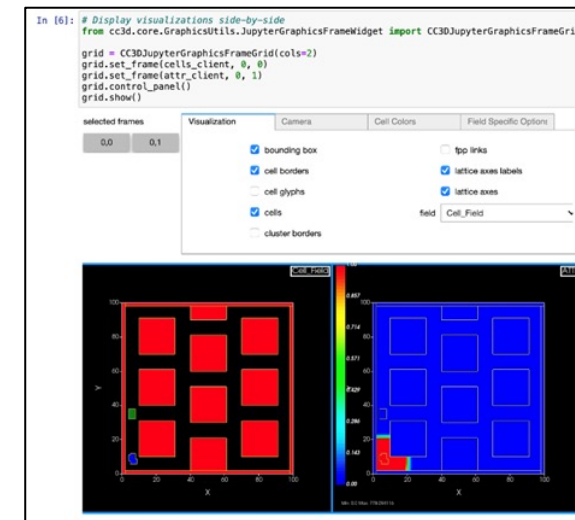


CC3D simulation of tumor growth and angiogenesis

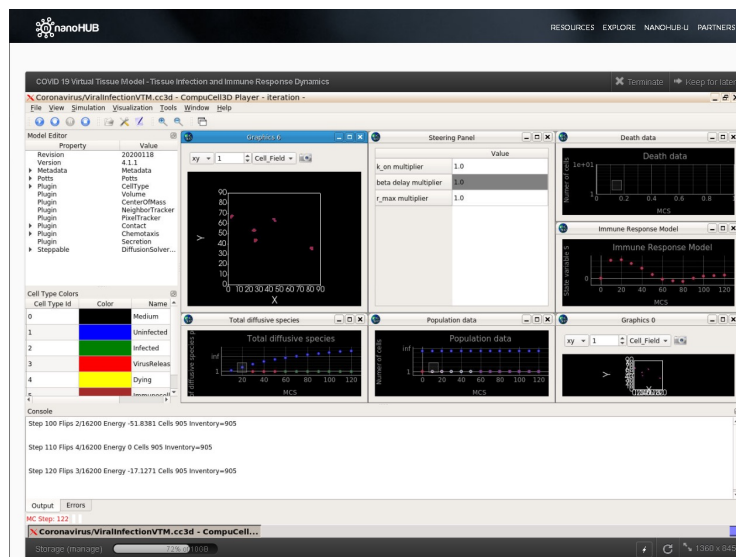


# Computational performance + Rapid, intuitive, shareable model specification

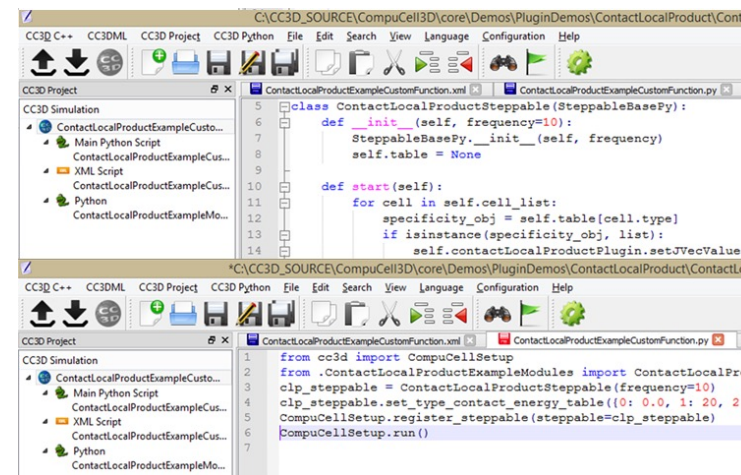
- Model specification
  - Declarative (built-in) + procedural (custom)
  - XML, Python and XML, or all Python (Jupyter)
- Player: interactive execution with real-time rendering
- Twedit++: editor with tools for model development



CC3D in a Jupyter Notebook  
(Chung, J. App. Technol. Edu. Sci., 2023)

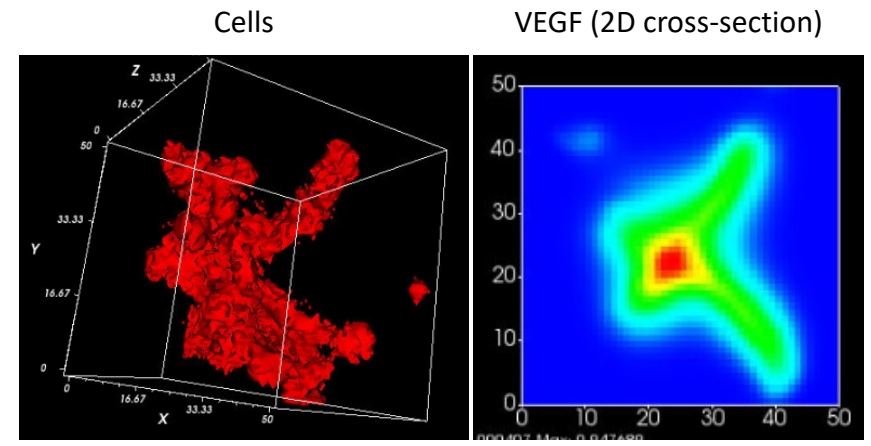


Player: CC3D interactive simulation execution on nanoHUB

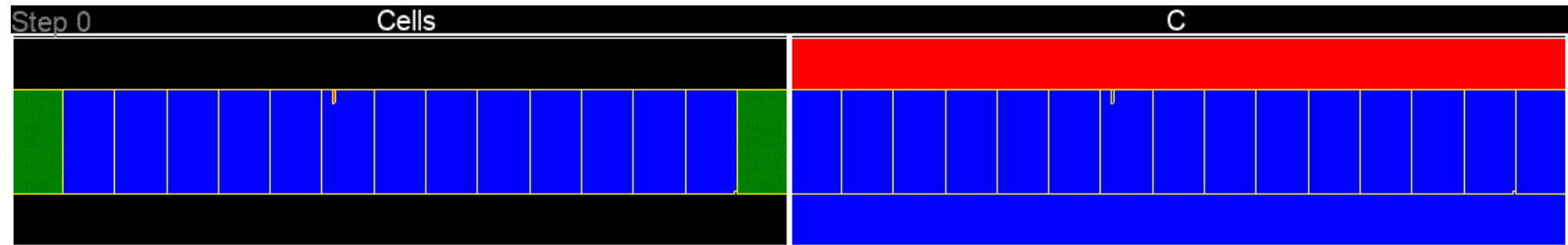


Twedit++: CC3D model editor

- String specification of field interactions
- Uptake and release by cell
- Diffusivity and decay by cell phenotype
- Built-in stability and automatic time-stepping
- New Finite-Volume solver and improved FE solvers



Angiogenesis simulation

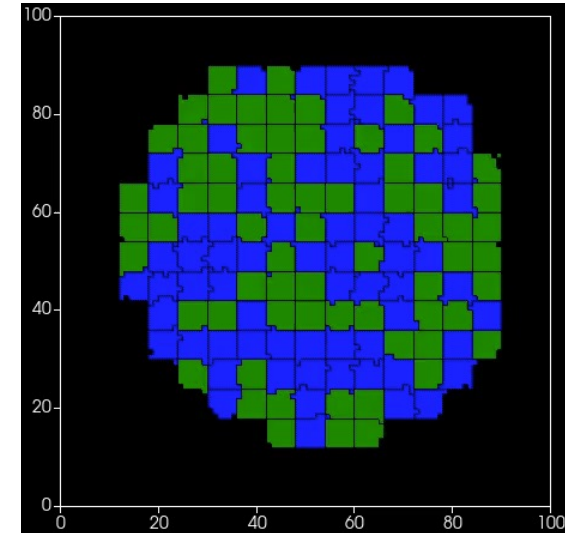


Transcytosis simulation with new transport modeling capabilities in CC3D

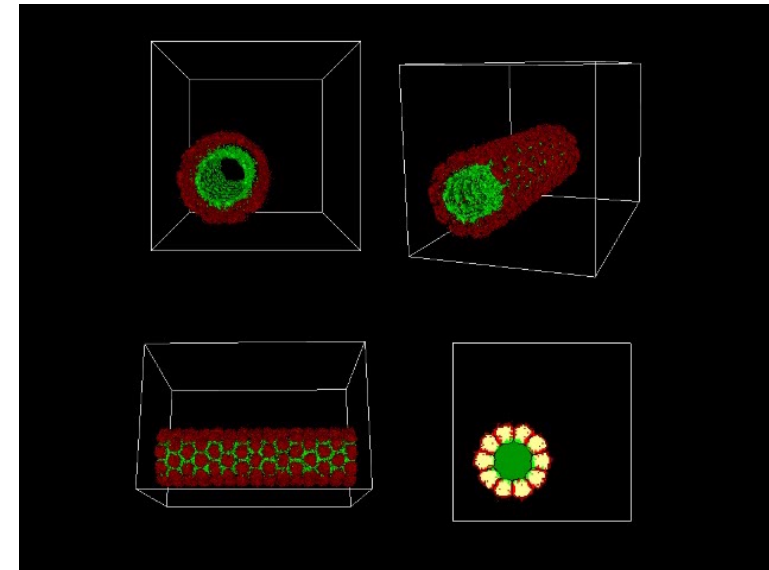


# Lots of plugins modeling biological/physical processes!

- Cell volume, surface area, shape constraints
- Phenotype- and molecule-specific adhesion (*e.g.*, modeling N-cadherin)
- Compartmental cells (*e.g.*, modeling organelles)
- Complete list: [www.compuCell3d.org](http://www.compuCell3d.org)
- **CC3D designed so you can add new mechanisms and functionality to the core codebase (improved support for user-developed C++ functionality)**



CC3D simulation of cell sorting

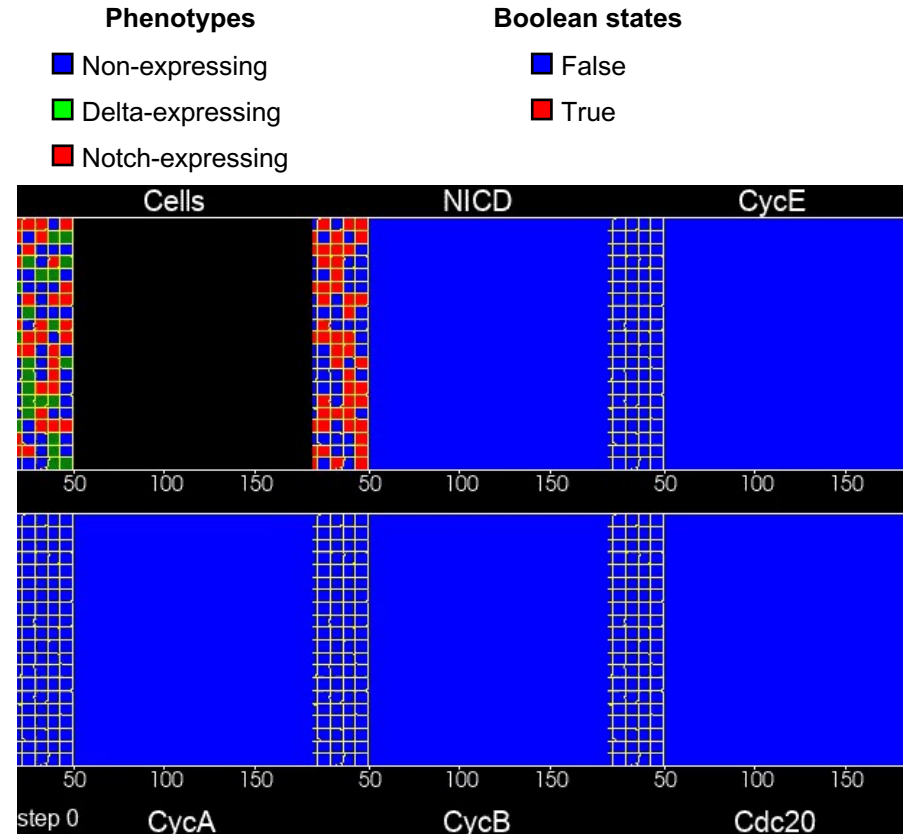


CC3D simulation of polycystic kidney disease





- ODE model specification with Antimony, CellML and SBML
- Boolean network model specification with MaBoSS (New)
- Supports attaching models to individual cells (e.g., intracellular processes) and simulation domains (e.g., systemic processes)



```

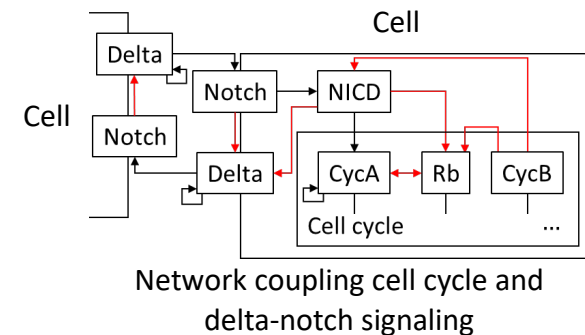
120 def step(self, mcs):
121     """
122     Called every simulation step
123     """
124     :param mcs: step number
125     """
126     for cell in self.cell_list:
127         maboss_model = cell.maboss.cell_cycle
128         num_delta_ext = 0
129         for neighbor, common_surface_area in self.get_cell_neighbor_data_list(cell):
130             if neighbor:
131                 num_delta_ext += int(neighbor.maboss.cell_cycle['delta'].state) * common_surface_area
132                 maboss_model.network.symbol_table['delta_ext'] = float(num_delta_ext) * csa_to_delta_ext
133
134     self.timestep_maboss()
135

```

Annotations for the code:

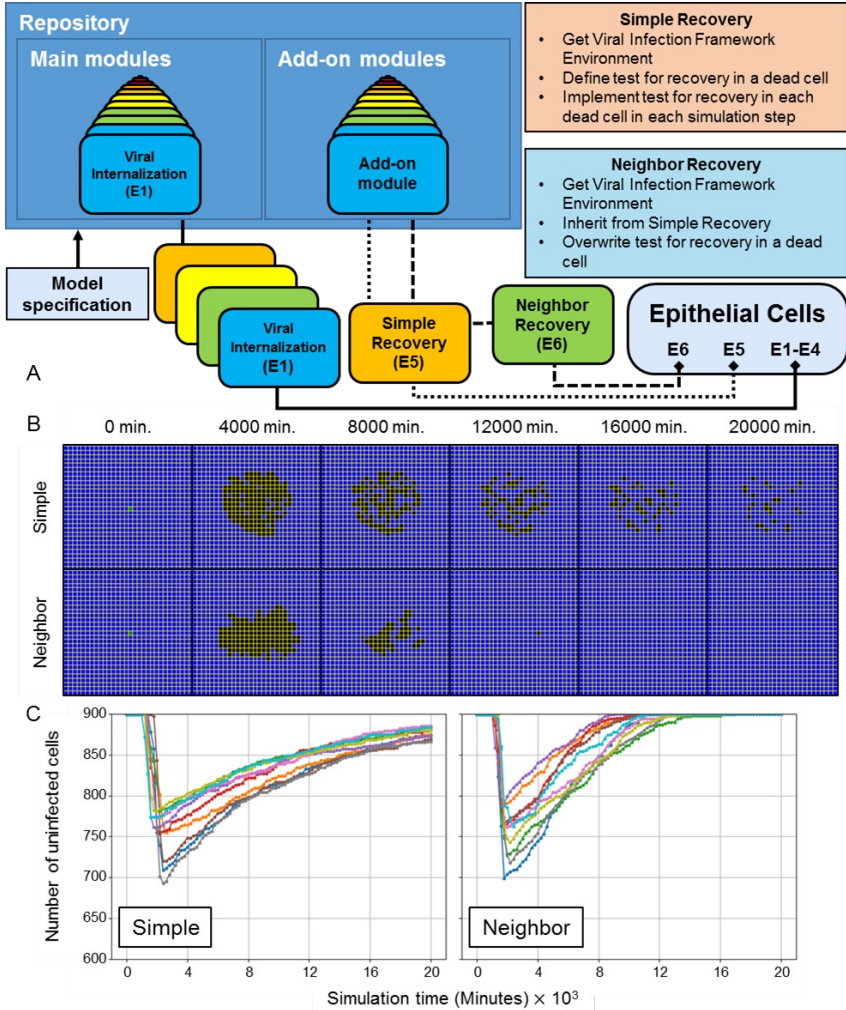
- Loop over every cell (points to the for loop over cell in self.cell\_list)
- Get a cell's MaBoSS simulation (points to maboss\_model = cell.maboss.cell\_cycle)
- Get a cell's MaBoSS node state (points to neighbor.maboss.cell\_cycle['delta'].state)
- Integrate all MaBoSS simulations (points to self.timestep\_maboss())
- Set a cell's MaBoSS parameter (points to maboss\_model.network.symbol\_table['delta\_ext'] = ...)

Sample code of MaBoSS in CompuCell3D



# Collaborative, Concurrent Model Development (New Component Architecture)

- Simulation framework is designed with *interchangeable, shareable, and extensible* model modules (architecture like the Python programming language)
- Simulation specification: load a set of model modules
- Built-in support for seamlessly downloading, adding, using and uploading add-on model modules
- Architecture prevents collision during concurrent development
- Framework and library are maintained on GitHub: collaborative public development



```

from Models.RecoveryNeighbor.RecoverySteppables import NeighborRecoveryDataSteppable
CompuCellSetup.register_steppable(steppable=NeighborRecoveryDataSteppable(frequency=1))

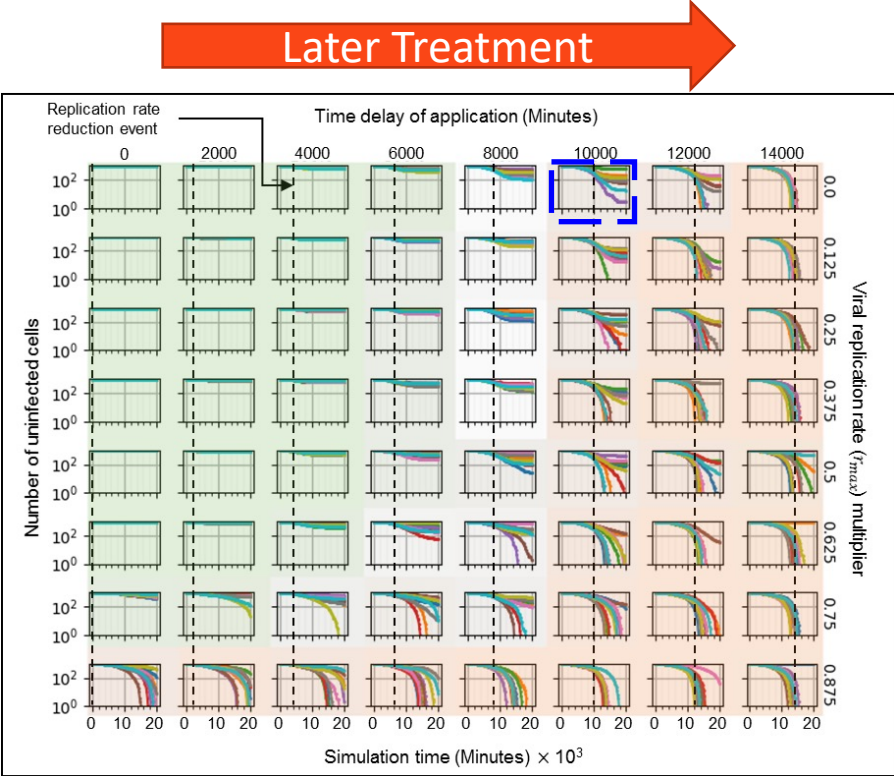
CompuCellSetup.run()

```



# Advanced/Integrated Applications (New Chaining of CC3D Simulations, Python Callability and Workflow Integration)

- Cluster execution
- CC3D Python API (e.g., model calibration using PyTorch, integrated applications)
- CC3D Simulation as a Service
  - Live CC3D simulations as interactive, memory-safe Python objects
  - Interacting, multi-site simulations
  - Integrated applications
  - Jupyter support



Massively parallel execution of viral infection and therapy



# Flexible and It Works...



## 2023

1. "Cell Modeling in Jupyter Notebook using CompuCell3D" Trinity Chung, T.J. Seago, James A. Glazier. Journal of Advanced Technological Education (J ATE), Vol. 2, Issue 1, Jan. 30, 2023. DOI:10.5281/zenodo.7600786..

## 2022

1. "YOLO2U-NET: DETECTION-GUIDED 3D INSTANCE SEGMENTATION FOR MICROSCOPY." Amirkoushyar Ziabari, Derek C. Rose, Abbas Shirinifard, and David Solecki. arXiv:2207.06215v1 [eess.IV] 13 Jul 2022.
2. "The Reaction-Diffusion Theory Of Morphogenesis." Cierra Tinson, Honors Thesis, University of Rochester, [2022].
3. "Exploring Ductal Carcinoma In-Situ to Invasive Ductal Carcinoma Transitions Using Energy Minimization Principles." Vivek M. Sheraton and Shijun Ma. In: Groen, D., de Mulatier, C., Paszynski, M., Krzhizhanovskaya, V.V., Dongarra, J.J., Sloot, P.M.A. (eds) Computational Science – ICCS 2022. ICCS 2022. Lecture Notes in Computer Science, vol 13350. Springer, Cham. [https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-031-08751-6\\_27](https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-031-08751-6_27).
4. "Mechanically primed cells transfer memory to fibrous matrices for persistent invasion." José Almeida, Jairaj Mathur, Ye Lim Lee, Bapi Sarker, Amit Pathak. BioRxiv, Posted May 02, 2022. doi: <https://doi.org/10.1101/2022.05.02.490316>.
5. "The modeling study of the effect of morphological behaviors of extracellular matrix fibers on the dynamic interaction between tumor cells and antitumor immune response." Guanjie Jia, Hao Yang, Kaiqun Wang, Di Huang, Weiyi Chen, Yanhu Shan. International Journal for Numerical Methods in Biomedical Engineering. 2022: e3633. DOI: 10.1002/cnm.3633.
6. "A mathematical model to study the impact of intra-tumour heterogeneity on anti-tumour CD8+ T cell immune response." Leschiera, Emma, Tommaso Lorenzi, Shensi Shen, Luis Almeida, and Chloe Audebert. Journal of Theoretical Biology (2022): 111028.
7. Matrix-driven jamming dynamics mediates transition of ovarian cancer spheroids to stable morphologies. Tavishi Dutt, Jimpi Langthasa, U Monica, Prosenjit Sen, Ramray Bhat bioRxiv 2022.02.09.479678; doi:<https://doi.org/10.1101/2022.02.09.479678>
8. Modelling Direct and Indirect Effects of Radiation: Experimental, Clinical and Environmental Implications. Brüningk, S.C., Powathil, G.G. (2022). In: Wood, M.D., Mothersill, C.E., Tsakanova, G., Cresswell, T., Woloschak, G.E. (eds) Biomarkers of Radiation in the Environment. NATO Science for Peace and Security Series A: Chemistry and Biology. Springer, Dordrecht.
9. Shape-velocity correlation defines polarization in migrating cell simulations. Fortuna, Gabriel C. Perrone, François Graner, Rita M.C. de Almeida. Physica A: Statistical Mechanics and its Applications, Volume 587, 2022, 126511, ISSN 0378-4371, <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.physa.2021.126511>.
10. Multiscale Model of Antiviral Timing, Potency, and Heterogeneity Effects on an Epithelial Tissue Patch Infected by SARS-CoV-2. Ferrari Gianlupi, J.; Mapper, T.; Seago, T.J.; Sluka, J.P.; Quinney, S.K.; Craig, M.; Stratford, R.E., Jr.; Glazier, J.A. Viruses 2022, 14, 605. <https://doi.org/10.3390/v14030605>
11. Parameterized Computational Framework for the Description and Design of Genetic Circuits of Morphogenesis Based on Contact-Dependent Signaling and Changes in Cell-Cell Adhesion. Calvin Lam\*, Sajeev Saluja, George Courcoubetis, Dottie Yu, Christian Chung, Josquin Courte, and Leonardo Morsut\* Cite this: ACS Synth. Biol. 2022, 11, 4, 1417–1439 Publication Date: April 1, 2022 <https://doi.org/10.1021/acssynbio.0c00369>

## 2021

1. "Mathematical and Computational Modelling of the Self-Organisation of Multicellular Tissues." Madeleine Fraser (2021). Honours Thesis, School of Mechanical and Mining Engineering, The University of Queensland. <https://doi.org/10.14264/8061082>.
2. "Estudo de Fatores Biológicos em Modelo Computacional no Desenvolvimento de Tecido Ósseo em Ambiente scaffold-free." Júlia G. Blahun, Bruna M. Manzini, Izaque A. Maia, Pedro Y. Noritomi, Jorge V. L. da Silva. XXIII Jornada de Iniciação Científica do CTI Renato Archer -- JICC '2021 PIBIC/CNPq/CTI -- Outubro de 2021 – Campinas – São Paulo.
3. "Análise in silico da influência de marcadores biológicos para o desenvolvimento de tecido ósseo em ambiente scaffold-free." Bianca C. dos Santos, Pedro A. Noritomi, Jorge V.L. Silva, Bruna M. Manzini, and Izaque A. Maia. XXIII Jornada de Iniciação Científica do CTI Renato Archer - JICC '2021 PIBIC/CNPq/CTI - Outubro de 2021 – Campinas – São Paulo.
4. "Matrix adhesion and remodeling diversifies modes of cancer invasion across spatial scales." Durjay Pramanik, Mohit Kumar Jolly, Ramray Bhat. J Theor Biol. [2021] Sep 7;524:110733. doi:10.1016/j.jtbi.2021.110733. PMID:33933478.
5. "Heterogeneity in 2,6-Linked Sialic Acids Potentiates Invasion of Breast Cancer Epithelia." Dharma Pally, Durjay Pramanik, Shahid Hussain, Shreya Verma, Anagha Srinivas, Rekha V. Kumar, Arun Everest-Dass, and Ramray Bhat. ACS Cent. Sci. [2021], 7, 1, 110–125, January 3, 2021. <https://doi.org/10.1021/acscentsci.0c00601>
6. A multiscale cell-based model of tumor growth for chemotherapy assessment and tumor-targeted therapy through a 3D computational approach. Jafari Nivlouei, S., Soltani, M., Shirani, E., Salimpour, M. R., Travasso, R., & Carvalho, J. (2022). Cell proliferation, 55(3), e13187

<https://compucell3d.org/Publications>





# Tissue Forge

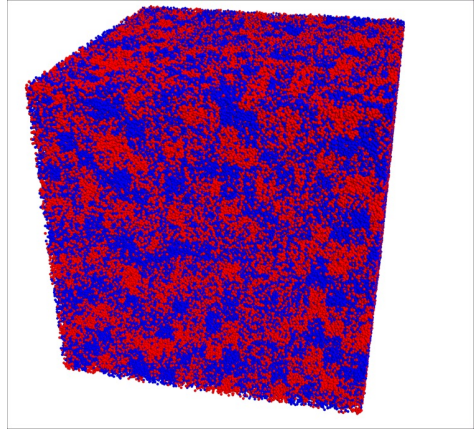
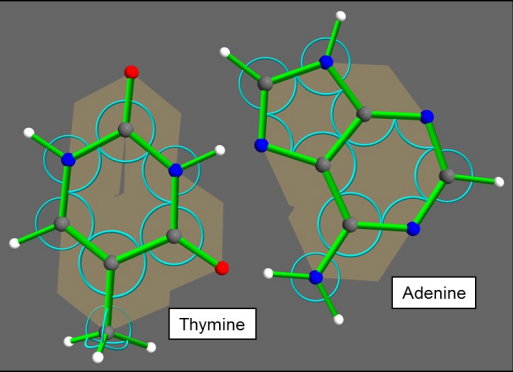
**A new Python-scriptable modeling environment for large, multiscale  
Virtual-Tissue models using center-model and vertex model formalism**

Original code developed by Dr. Endre Somogyi, current code developed by Prof. TJ  
Sego, University of Florida



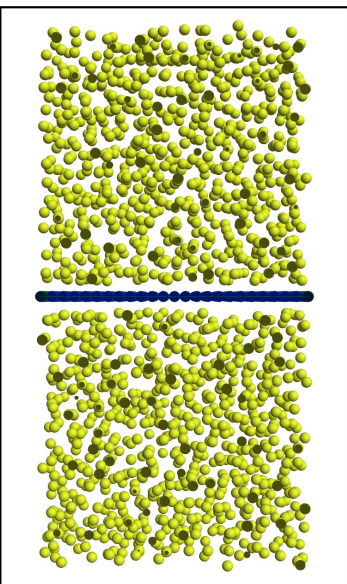
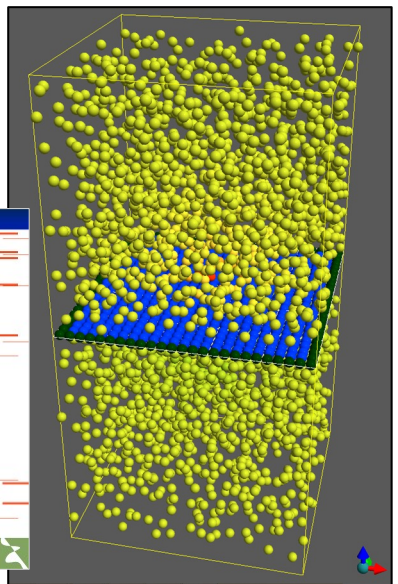
## Particle-Based Multiphysics

- Relevant scales: nano to multicellular
  - Molecular dynamics
  - Coarse-grain molecular dynamics
  - Center model cellular dynamics
- Built-in physics-based models
  - Solid mechanics
  - Fluid mechanics
  - Electrodynamics



Cell sorting in an aggregate with 1.25M cells

The screenshot shows the software's main interface with a sidebar menu on the left containing the same list of features as the text on the left. The main window displays a 3D visualization of a cell aggregate with a blue membrane and yellow particles, with a smaller inset showing a molecular model.

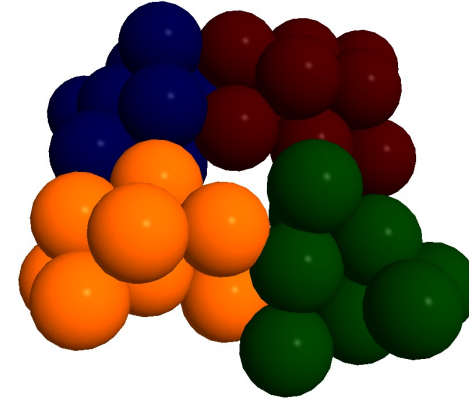


Transport modeling at a deformable membrane

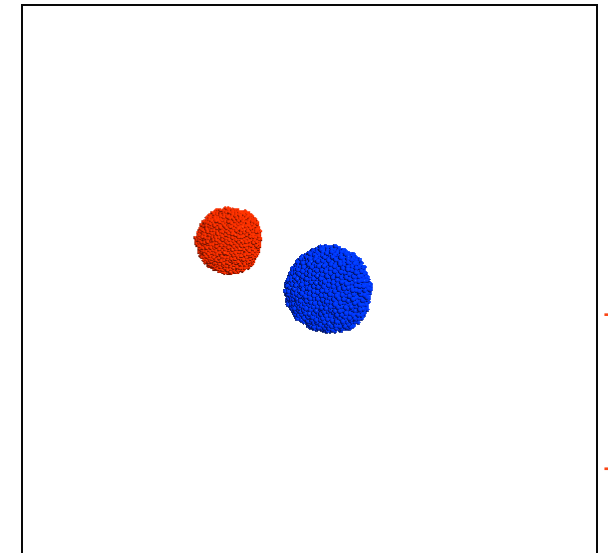


## Event- and Agent-based Modeling

- Type-centric model specification
- User-specified events
- Customizable potentials and forces
- Runtime particle creation, destruction and modification



Implementation of Cellular Particle Dynamics (Flenner, Phys. Rev. E, 2012) modeling four aggregating cells



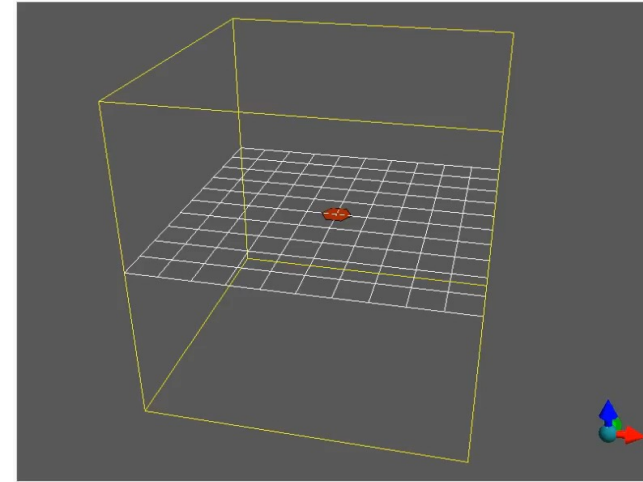
Convection during droplet collision using Smooth Particle Hydrodynamics (Gu, Theor. Appl. Mech. Lett., 2022)



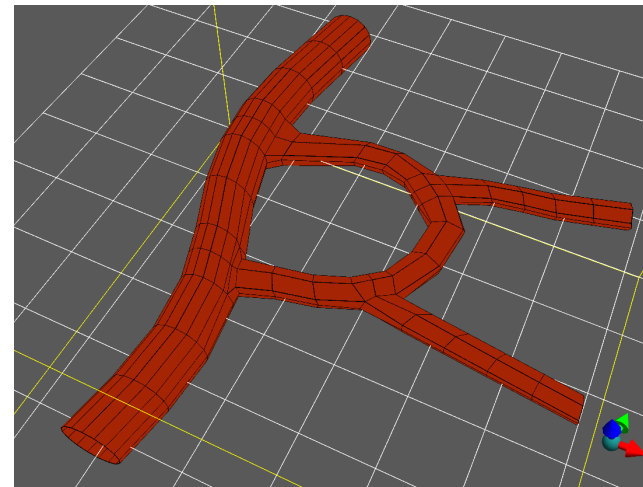


## Real-time Interactive Simulation

- Real-time simulation visualization
- Keyboard-driven event handling
- Simulation visualization output
  - Programmatic camera/scene control
  - High-resolution rendering
- Off-screen dynamic GPU acceleration



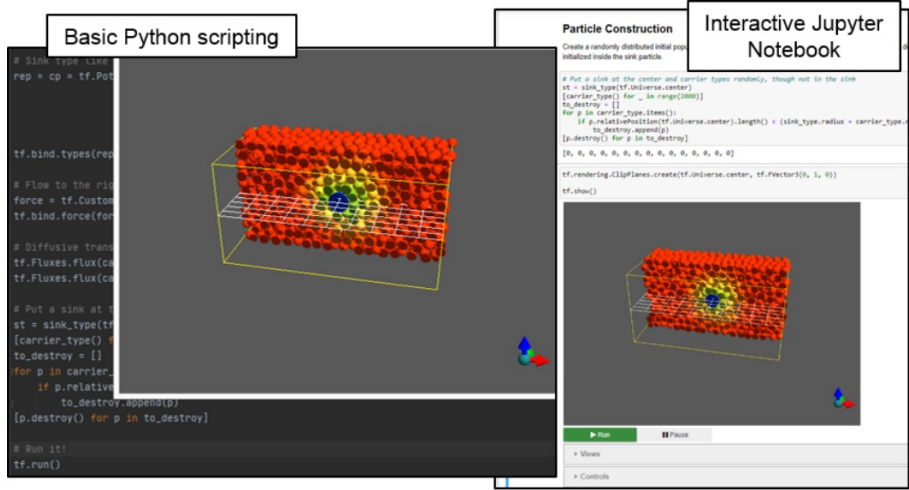
Interactive two-dimensional simulation of cell splitting using Tissue Forge vertex model extension module



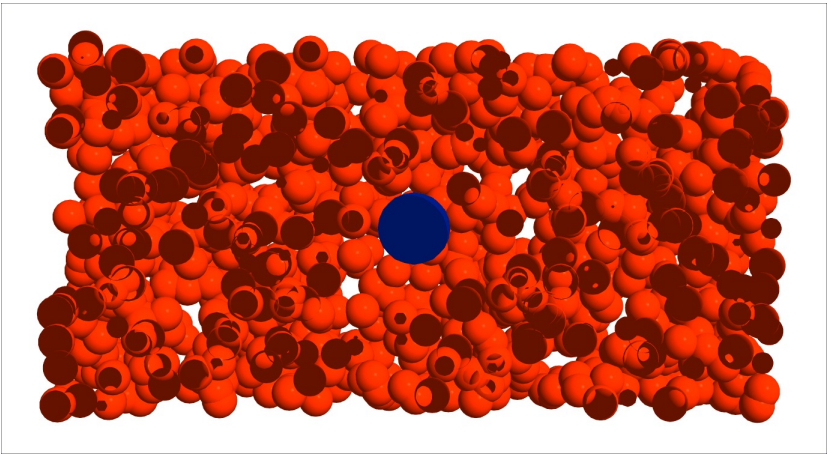
High-resolution rendering of imported Blender mesh of a local vasculature

## Sharable Biophysics Models

- Language support: C, C++, Python
- Interactive environment support
  - IPython
  - Jupyter
- I/O support for whole simulations and (most) model object states
  - Human-readable JSON
  - 3DF model file format support



Tissue Forge simulation in a Python script (left) and Jupyter Notebook (right)



Cut-plane view of Tissue Forge simulation of convection around a rigid, fixed sink (blue)

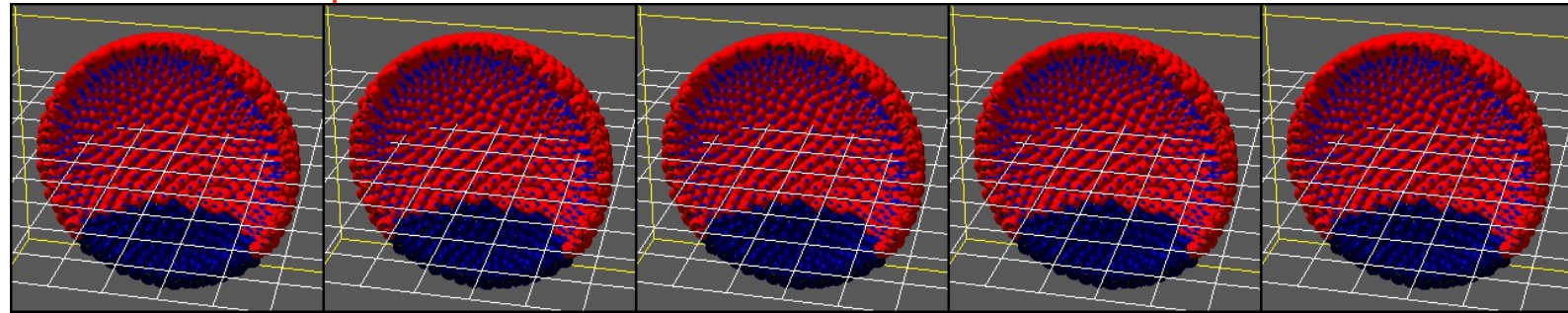


## Open-Source and Extensible

- LGPL v3
- Automated build from source
- Robust support for extensions
- Binaries available for Windows,
- Mac and Linux via conda:

*conda install -c tissue-forge tissue-forge*

Center-model simulation of gastrulation in sea urchin



Gastrulation simulation using the Tissue Forge cell polarity extension module



## Type vs. Instance vs. Cluster

- Particle type
  - Dynamic particle definition
  - Factory for creating instances
- Particle
  - Instance of a particle type
  - Uniquely identifiable and modifiable
- Cluster
  - A meta-instance of constituent particles (or other clusters)

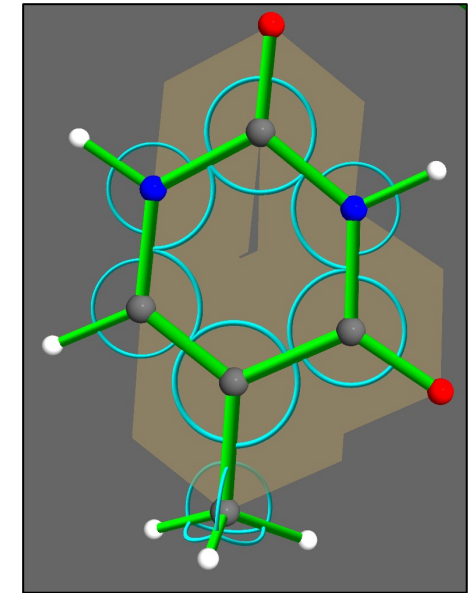
**Cluster:** thymine molecule

**Types:**

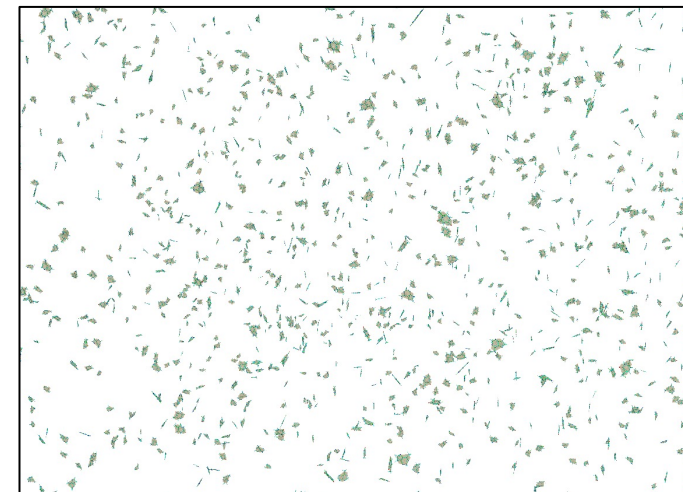
- Hydrogen (white)
- Carbon (gray)
- Nitrogen (blue)
- Oxygen (red)

**Instances:**

- 6 hydrogen atoms
- 5 carbon atoms
- 2 nitrogen atoms
- 2 oxygen atoms



Tissue Forge thymine instance



Cloud of interacting thymine and adenine instances





## Newtonian vs. Langevin

Each particle trajectory updates according to the total force acting on it

- Newtonian dynamics

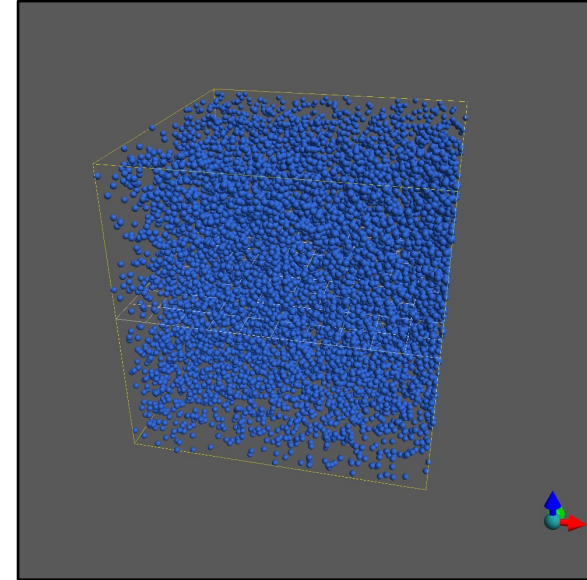
$$f_i = m\ddot{r}_i$$

- Langevin (overdamped) dynamics

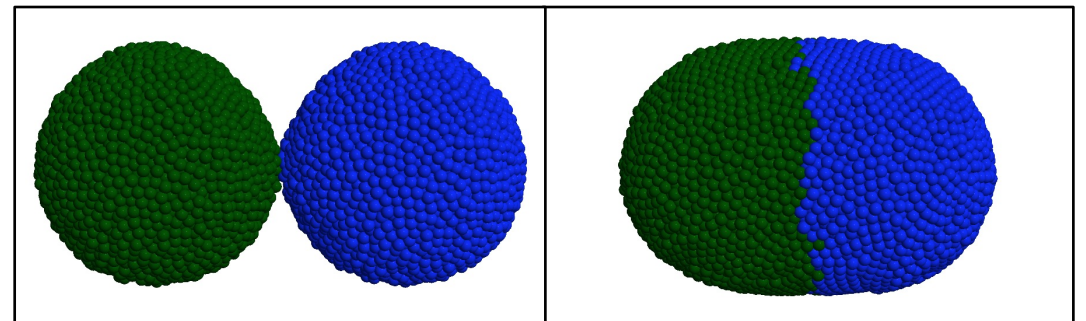
$$f_i = m\dot{r}_i$$

Dynamics are settable by particle type

Argon gas simulation: **Newtonian** dynamics



Multicellular simulation: **Langevin** dynamics



## Potentials, Forces and Bonds

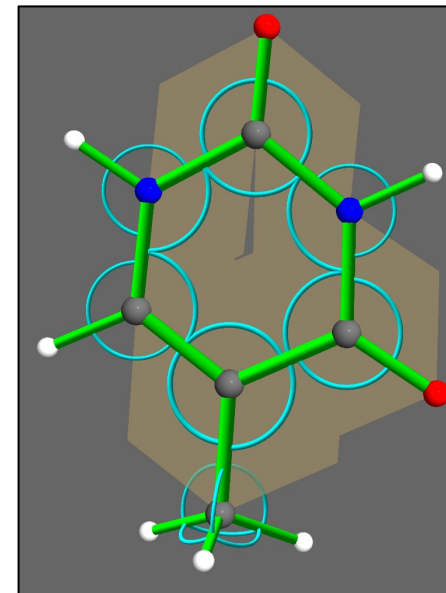
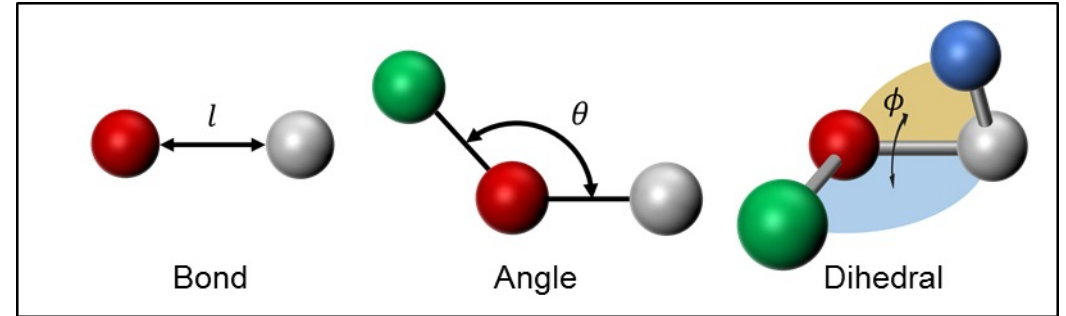
Potentials describe implicit forces

$$f_i = - \frac{\partial U}{\partial r_i}$$

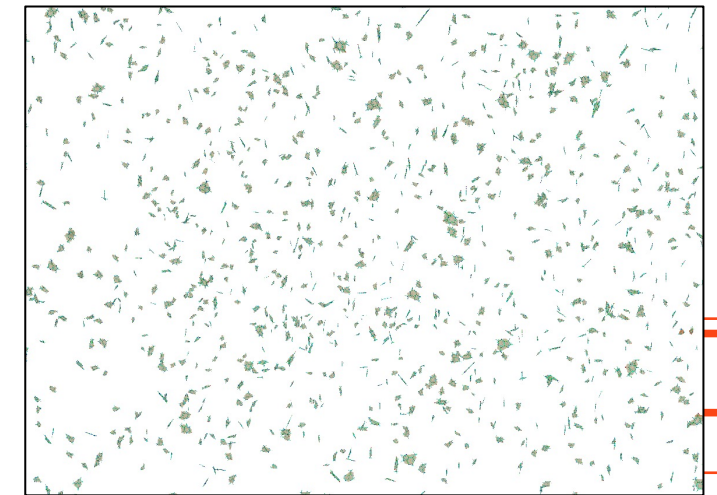
Potentials and forces are applied through **binding**

- Modifiable simulation objects
- Can be added (e.g.,  $U = U^A + U^B$ )
- Forces bound by type (e.g., random noise)
- Potentials bound by types or particles (bonds)
- Potentials bound by inter-cluster and intra-cluster
- Customizable potentials and forces through user functions

### Supported **bonds** in Tissue Forge



Tissue Forge thymine instance with bonds (green rods), angles (cyan arcs) and dihedral (gold planes) bonded interactions



Cloud of thymine and adenine molecules interact through inter-cluster interaction potentials

Total force:  $f_i$ ; particle position:  $r_i$ ; potential:  $U$ .



## Particle-based fluid modeling

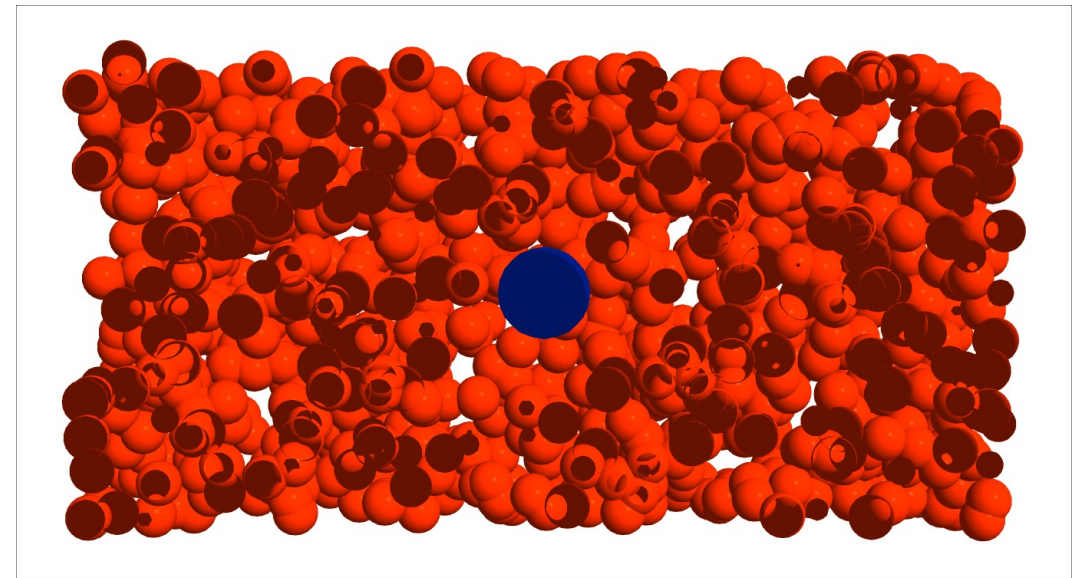
- Particle: parcel of fluid materials
- Cargo: fluid material carries a quantity of “stuff” (e.g., chemical contents)

Material advection: dissipative particle dynamics

$$-\frac{\partial U^{DPD}}{\partial r_i} = F_i^C + F_i^D + F_i^R$$

Cargo diffusion: inter-particle diffusion

$$S(A) \leftrightarrow S(B) ; k \left( 1 - \frac{r(A, B)}{r^c} \right) (S(A) - S(B))$$



Cut-plane view of Tissue Forge simulation of convection around a rigid, fixed sink (blue)





## Tissue Forge Next Steps

**Full 3D vertex model specification**

**Integration with subcellular network models**

**Predefined cell types and multiaxis interaction dependence**

**More demos of capabilities**





# Towards Diffusion Solver Surrogates

**Solving the diffusion equation is often the most computationally expensive part of Virtual Tissue models, especially for fast diffusing species like Oxygen, Glucose or ions**

**Gradually building up to ML surrogates for classical diffusion solvers (not there yet)**

**Work by Dr. Javier Toledo (TRIUMF) and Prof. Geoffrey Fox (University of Virginia)**



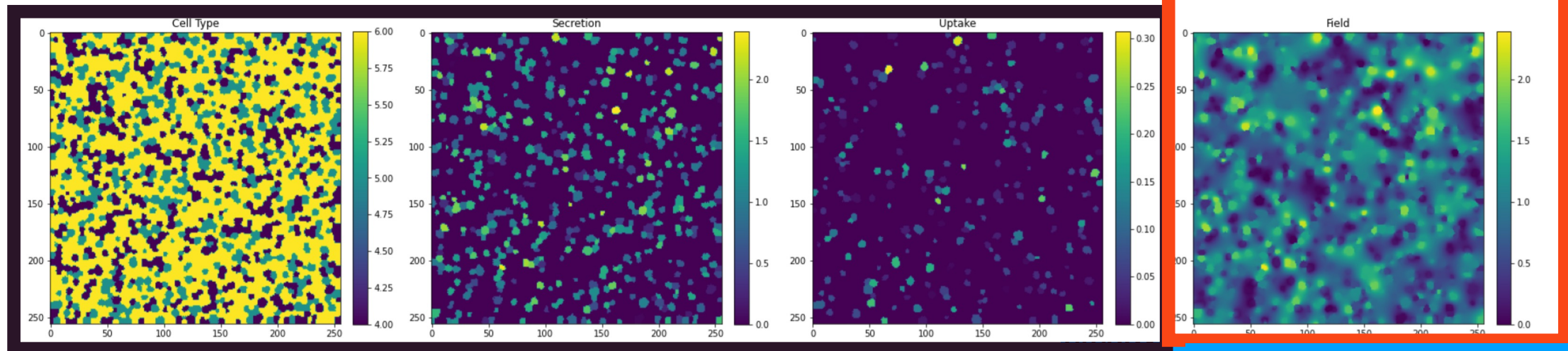
# Background

- Steady-state solution for diffusion with multiple sources and sinks in a lattice with periodic boundary conditions
- For now, constant diffusion constant, 2D
- Encoder-decoder performs well, while convolutional neural networks do not (only detect sources and sinks) [Toledo-Marin, G. Fox, J. Sluka, **JAG** *Frontiers in Physiology*, 2021]



# Problem Formulation

- Image-based (direct) method—inputs are 3 channel, secretion (constant value) update rates (first order decay) and locations of sources and sinks
- Variable numbers, locations and sizes of sources and sinks
- Training data pairs inputs triples with steady state fields calculated directly in CC3D (20,000 input-output pairs)



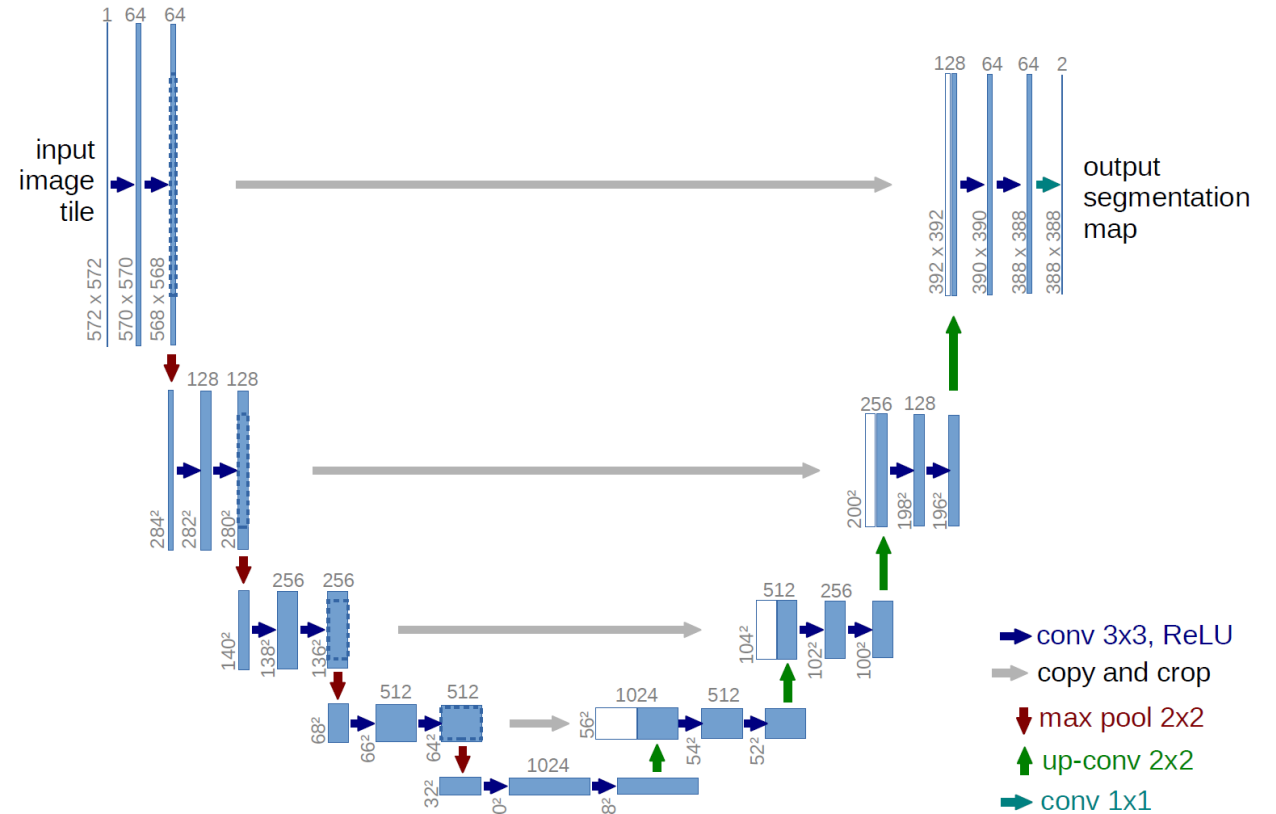
Input: We concatenate Secretion, Uptake and Cell type

Output



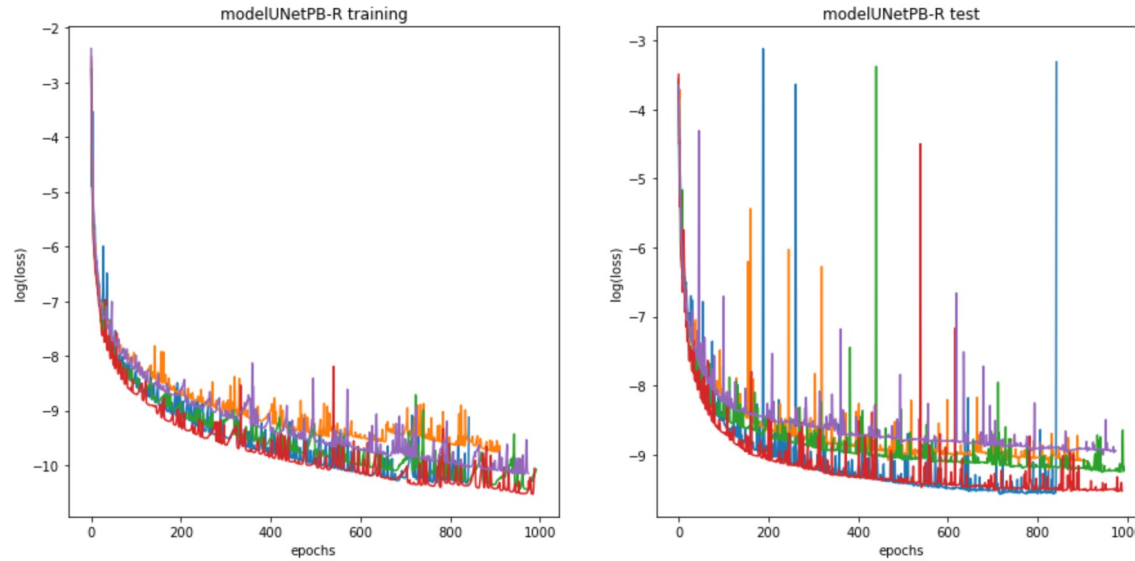
# Adopt U-net Architecture

- NN proposed for segmentation in [Ronneberger, Olaf, Philipp Fischer, and Thomas Brox. U-net].
- Combines features of an encoder-decoder architecture and a ResNet.
- Reminiscent of a multigrid method.
- Has been used for different tasks in deep learning...
- We trained different types of UNets, by changing the activation functions to Leaky ReLU and PReLU.
- We also trained models with the bias in the convolutions set to 0





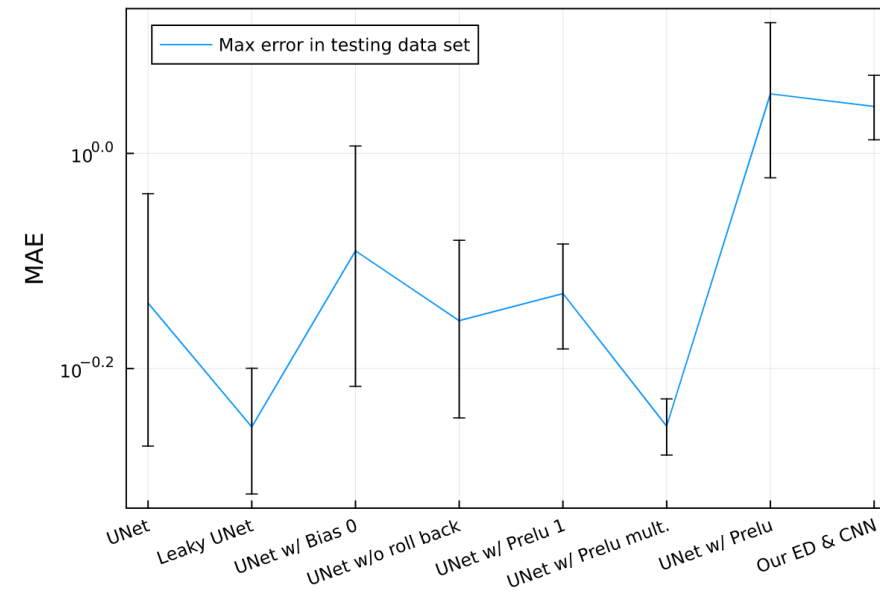
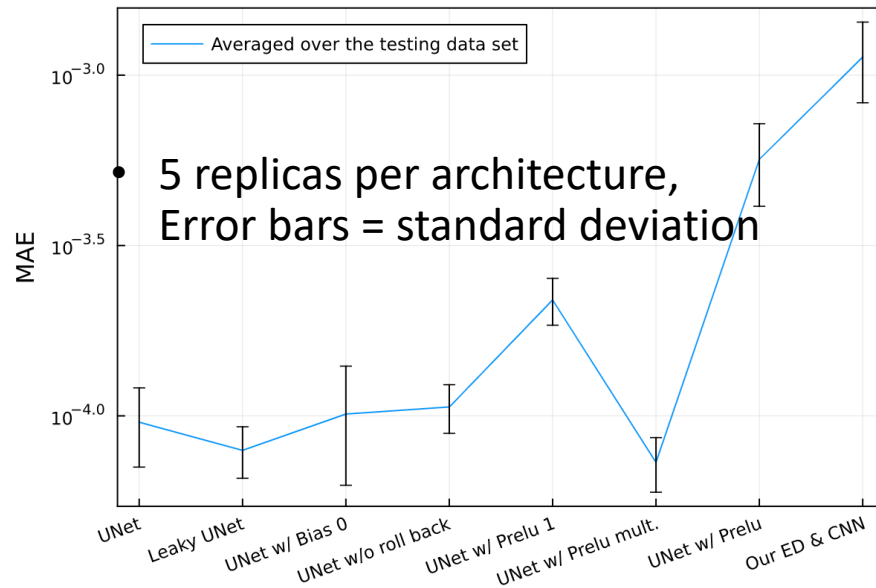
# Quality of Results Sensitive to Loss Functions, Training Algorithms and Transfer Functions



Several Characteristic times:

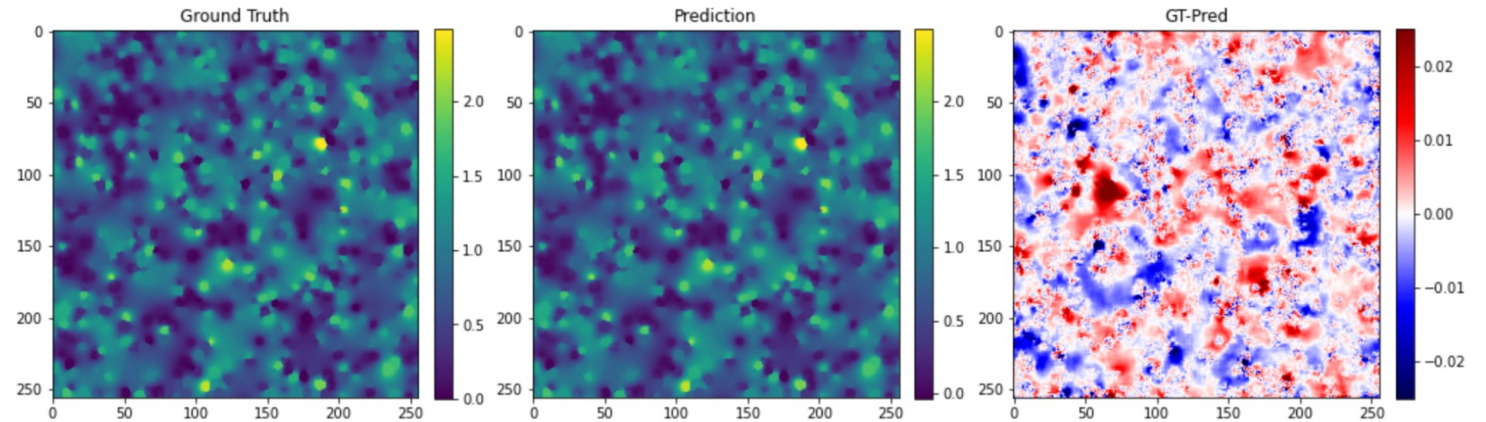
- Short relaxation time
- Long relaxation time
- In-between peak time
- Peak relaxation time

JQ. Toledo-Marin, G. Fox, **JAG** 2023 (in preparation)

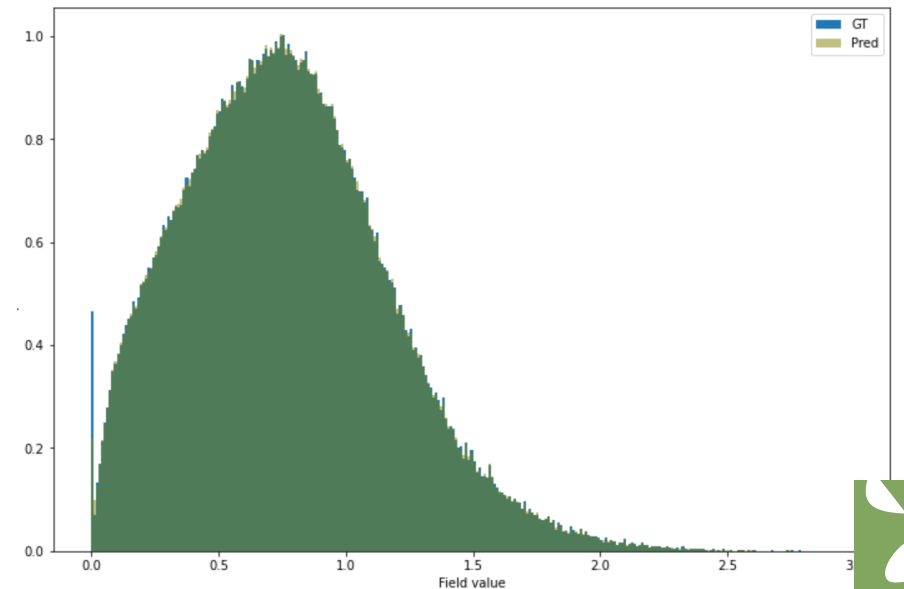
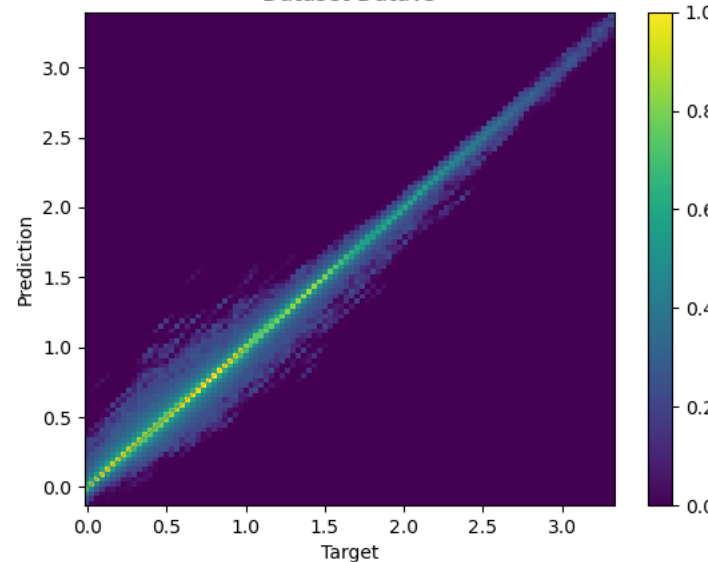


# Works Remarkably Well

- Negligible mean errors, maximum errors of a few percent of final values



Model modelUNetBiasOPB-R-1\_5,  
Dataset DataV3



We applied a power of 1/8 to the error grid to be able to visualize better the deviations



# Next Steps and Issues

It worked better than we expected!

- Dispersed (as opposed to focal) background uptake
- Spatially varying diffusion constants as an extra channel (currently trained for a single global D)
- Time-dependent (time-stepper vs steady-state)
- 3D vs 2D (big lattices, will need to do decimation)
- Integration into CompuCell3D and Tissue Forge
- **Fundamental problem with boundary conditions for real-world field-of-view windows (affects direct methods as well, but worse in ML approaches)**

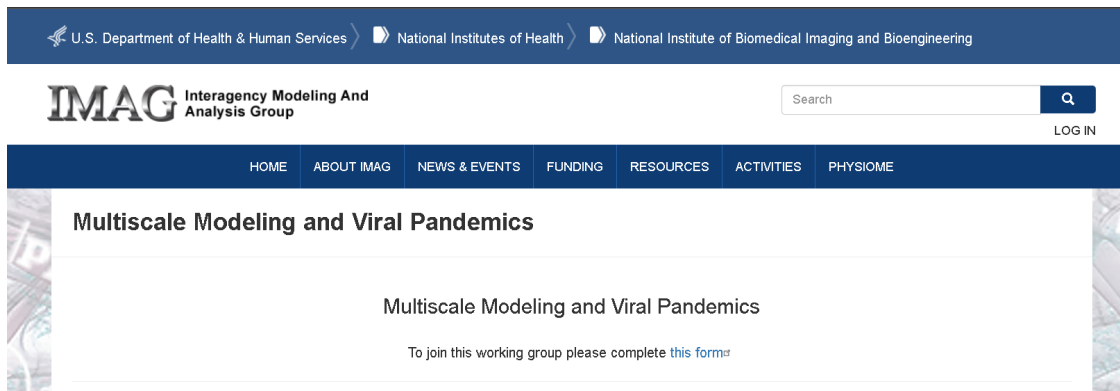


# Building a Community to Develop Biomedical Digital Twin Modeling Technologies

Please join the WG and attend or present in our virtual seminars: <https://www.imagwiki.nibib.nih.gov/working-groups/multiscale-modeling-and-viral-pandemics>

## IMAG/MSM: Working Group on Multiscale Modeling and Viral Pandemics

- Started by James Glazier and Reinhard Laubenbacher in Summer, 2020



Through this working group, recognized that developing infrastructure for mechanistic medical digital twins and immune digital twins is an integral part of planning for the next viral pandemic





# WG Efforts to Develop Immune Digital Twin

- **Viral Pandemics Working Group IMAG/MSM Wiki**  
<https://www.imagwiki.nibib.nih.gov/working-groups/multiscale-modeling-and-viral-pandemics>
- Presentations to the Working Group--YouTube videos (~170 total),  
<https://www.imagwiki.nibib.nih.gov/content/msm-viral-pandemics-meetings>
- Publications  
<https://www.imagwiki.nibib.nih.gov/content/viral-pandemics-group-publications-page>
- Workshops

## Forum On Precision Immunology: Immune Digital Twins

February 23-24, 2023

[UF Health Research and Academic Center, Orlando, FL](#)

### Sponsors:

- U.S. Department of Defense, Army Research Office, Biomathematics Program  
Grant Nr. ACC- APG- RTP W911NF
- University of Florida Health

May 15-June 2, 2023

UNIVERSITÉ PARIS-SACLAY INSTITUT PASCAL

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### BUILDING IMMUNE DIGITAL TWINS

Add to my calendar

Subjects: Life Sciences, Computer Science

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Public: Reserve & certain public

Event type: Scientific Program

Dates: from 15 May 2023 to 02 June 2023

Location: Institur Pascal

IMAG/MSM WG on Multiscale Model... James Glazier - 1 / 90

1 WG Virtual Seminars, Yeaman and Meyer, Immunobiology o... James Glazier 1:15:23

2 WG Virtual Seminars, Dos Santos, Early Detection of... James Glazier 51:57

3 WG Virtual Seminars, Thomas, GO Framework Applied to Vir... James Glazier 1:05:34

4 WG Virtual Seminars, Sauro, Dynamics and Sensitivity of... James Glazier 1:26:36

5 WG Virtual Seminars, Cho, Immunological Modeling... James Glazier 1:24:40

6 WG Virtual Seminars, Baker, PubMed Abstract Sifter for... James Glazier 1:23:09

7 WG Virtual Seminars, Kinnunen, Analysis Single-ce... James Glazier 1:10:18

8 WG Virtual Seminars, Khola, The European Health Data... James Glazier 1:36:24

9 WG Virtual Seminars, Knudsen, Microvasculature, Barham... James Glazier 1:26:21

🔒 | PERSPECTIVE | INFECTIOUS DISEASE

## Using digital twins in viral infection

Personalized computer simulations of infection could allow more effective treatments

REINHARD LAUBENBACHER, JAMES P. SLUKA, AND JAMES A. GLAZIER [Authors Info & Affiliations](#)

SCIENCE • 12 Mar 2021 • Vol 371, Issue 6534 • pp. 1105-1106 • DOI: 10.1126/science.abf3370

## Building digital twins of the human immune system: toward a roadmap

[R. Laubenbacher](#), [A. Niarakis](#), [T. Helikar](#), [G. An](#), [B. Shapiro](#), [R. S. Malik-Sheriff](#), [T. J. Seago](#), [A. Knapp](#), [P. Macklin](#) & [J. A. Glazier](#)

[npj Digital Medicine](#) 5, Article number: 64 (2022) | [Cite this article](#)

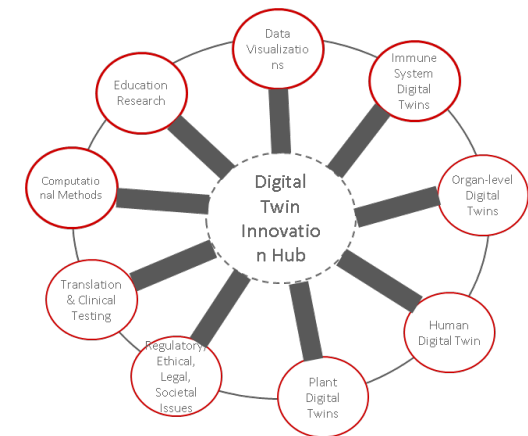
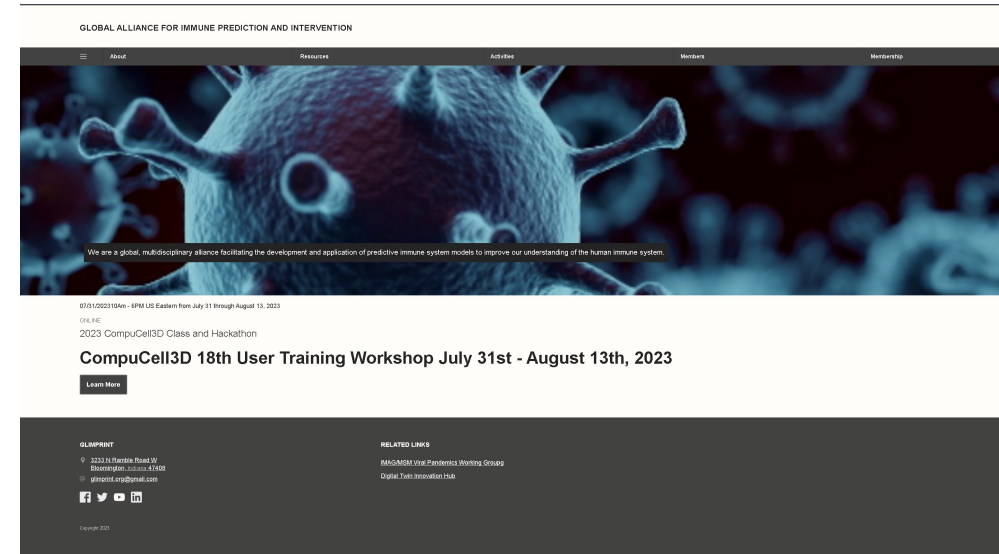
8409 Accesses | 3 Citations | 82 Altmetric | [Metrics](#)



# JUST BECAUSE IT'S DIFFICULT DOESN'T MEAN WE SHOULDN'T DO IT

- Global Alliance for Immune Prediction and Intervention
  - Non-profit organization to:
    - Facilitate the development and application of predictive immune system models to improve our understanding of systemic immune-related etiologies and pathologies and initiate a new era of novel therapeutic design through systems-based precision medicine
    - Facilitate the development of technological, scientific, regulatory, and social infrastructure and its application in science, medicine, and education
  - Please join at <http://glimprint.org/>
    - **Your suggestions for what we should do to build community much appreciated**

**Digital Twin Innovation Hub**, Tomas Helikar  
Sponsor: University of Nebraska-Lincoln



**Indiana University,  
Luddy School of Informatics, Computing, and  
Engineering**

**Two Tenured Professor Positions  
in Technology and Research Related to  
Next-Generation Biomedical Digital Twins**

**<https://indiana.peopleadmin.com/postings/16811>**

**Questions, nominations, and confidential inquiries may be  
sent to Prof. James A. Glazier ([jaglazier@gmail.com](mailto:jaglazier@gmail.com))**







# Links and Disclosures

- You can download CompuCell3D software from [www.compuccell3d.org](http://www.compuccell3d.org) or run them on line at <https://nanohub.org/tools/cc3dcovid19>
- You Can try Tissue Forge at [https://tissue-forge-python-api-documentation.readthedocs.io/en/latest/api\\_reference.html](https://tissue-forge-python-api-documentation.readthedocs.io/en/latest/api_reference.html)

Looking for 2 postdocs immediately to work on model building—on corneal homeostasis and damage and on software infrastructure, language specification and model sharing


We'd love to work with you to apply these methods to your problems

2 week, free, on-line course on using CompuCell3D this August—you're welcome to attend


NIH U24 EB028887,  
NSF 2120200,  
NSF 2000281,  
NSF 1720625

## 2023 Multicell Virtual Tissue Modeling Online Summer School & Hackathon

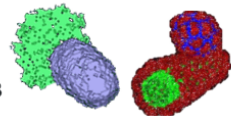
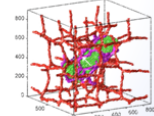
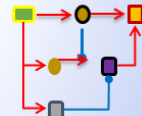
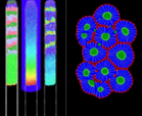


<p><b>Virtual Tissue Summer School</b>  <b>Part 1: Virtual Tissue Modeling with CompuCell3D</b>  <b>Tue-Fri Aug 1-4</b>  <b>Part 2: Advanced Topics in CC3D</b>  <b>Mon-Fri Aug 7-11</b></p>	<p><b>Virtual Tissue Modeling Hackathon</b>  <b>Build the foundation of your model with expert guidance</b>  <b>Sat-Sun Aug 12-13</b></p>
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**Disclosure:** Dr. Glazier and other investigators listed have filed for international patent protection for the ADPKD and Diabetic Retinopathy therapies under development and have financial interest in Apoptocys Inc. and Virtual Tissues For Health LLC, also owns a small amount of stock in Gilead

**Support:** NIH NIBIB-U24EB028887, NIGMS-R01GM122424, NSF-2120200, NSF-2000281, NSF-1720625, NIGMS-R01GM076692, NIGMS-R01GM077138, Proctor & Gamble, Johns-Hopkins APL

