



UiO : University of Oslo

Modeling and simulation of multicellular and multiscale systems using the cellular Potts model

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Oslo Centre for Biostatistics and Epidemiology
Faculty of Medicine
University of Oslo

Plan for week 45

Monday 2 Nov (Zoom only)

10:15 - 12:00, **Lecture:** Modelling multicellular systems using the cellular Potts model.

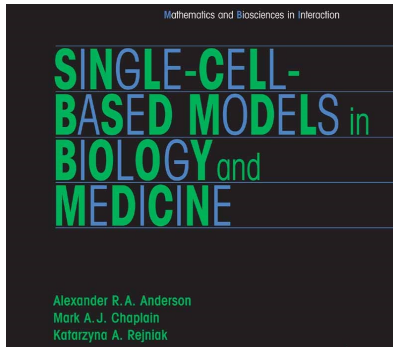
Tuesday 3 Nov (FV414 + Zoom)

12:00 - 13:20, **Hands-on 1:** Getting started with the software Morpheus.

13:40 - 15:00, **Hands-on 2:** Simulation and analysis of simple models.

Pre-assignments

Reading



II.1 Magnetization to Morphogenesis: A Brief History of the Glazier–Graner–Hogeweg Model

James A. Glazier, Ariel Balter and Nikodem J. Poplawski

Abstract. This chapter discusses the history and development of what we propose to rename the Glazier–Graner–Hogeweg model (*GGH model*), starting with its ancestors, simple models of magnetism, and concluding with its current state as a powerful, cell-oriented method for simulating biological development and tissue physiology. We will discuss some of the choices and accidents of this development and some of the positive and negative consequences of the model's pedigree.

Installing



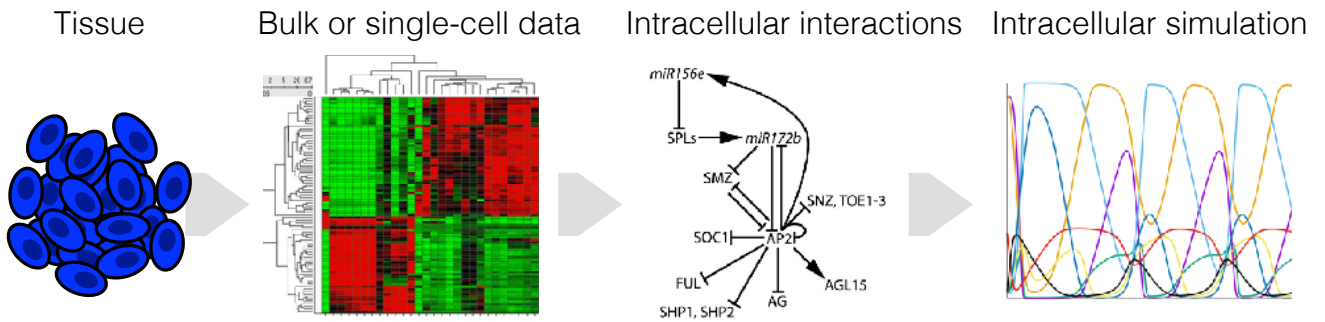
Morpheus



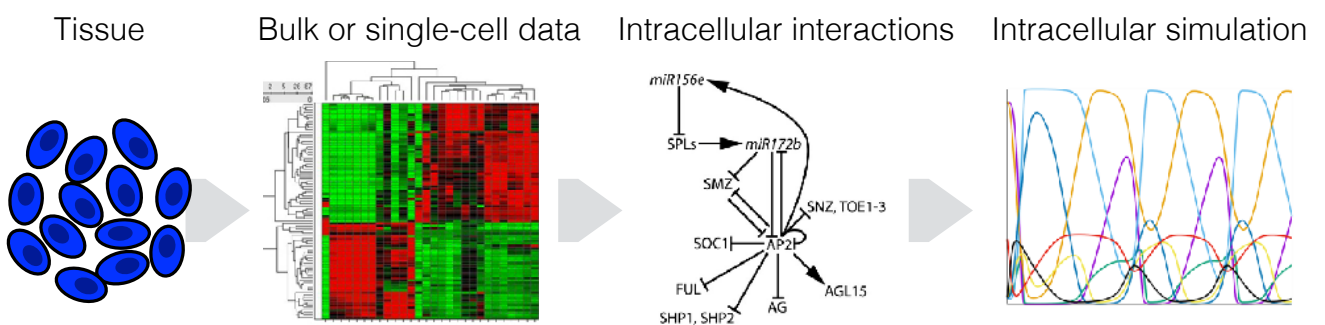
Python
+
Jupyter
Notebooks

Modeling multicellular systems using the cellular Potts model

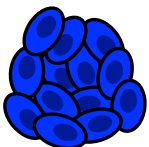
Systems biology



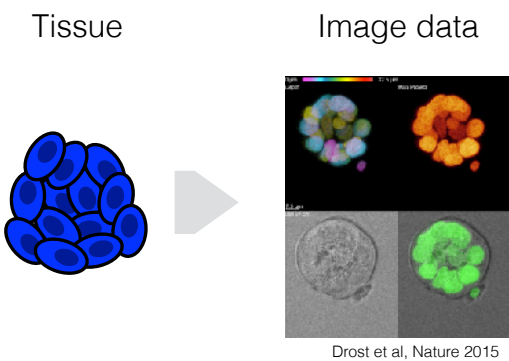
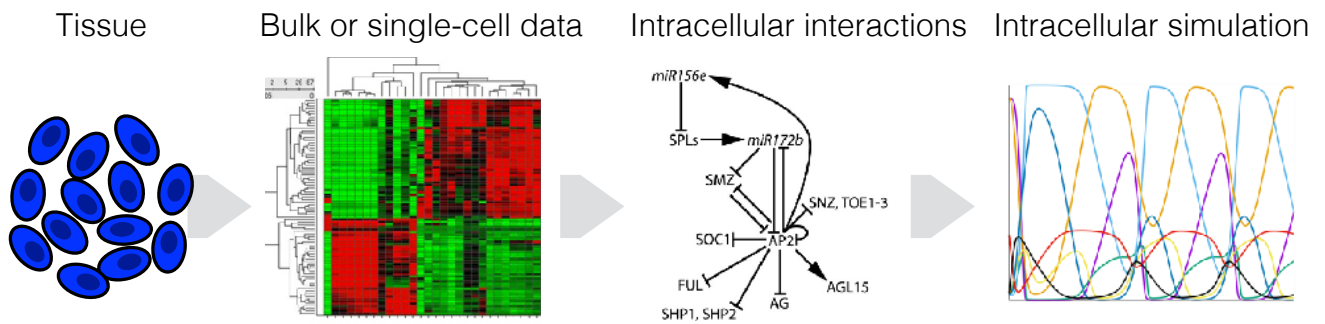
Multicellular systems biology



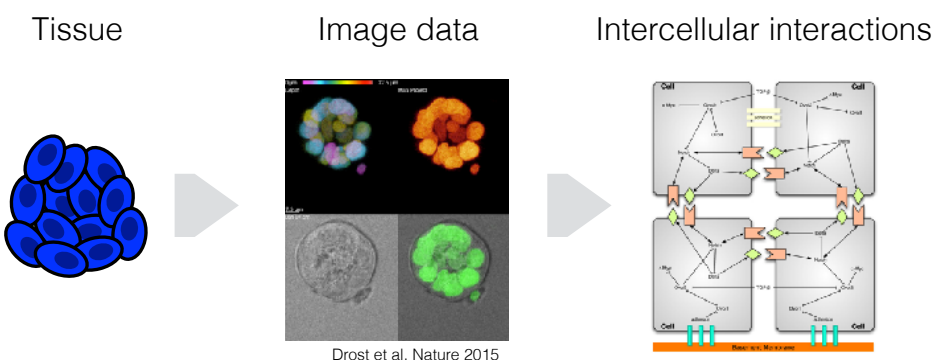
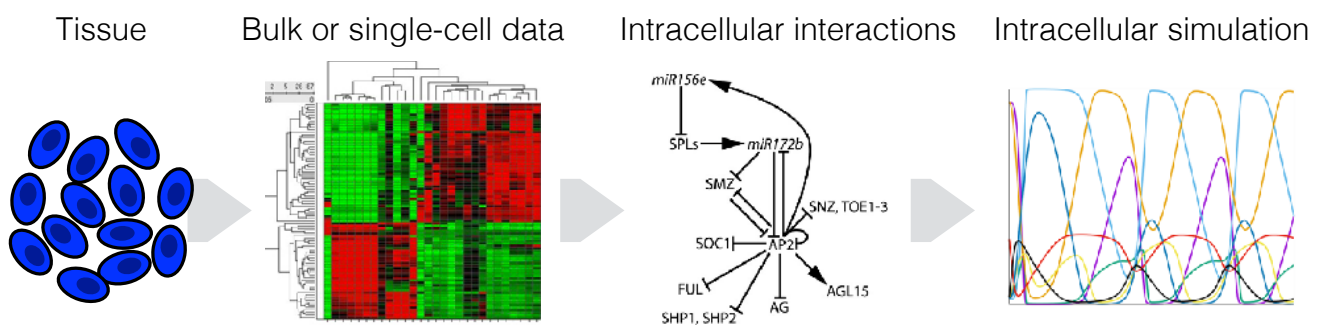
Tissue



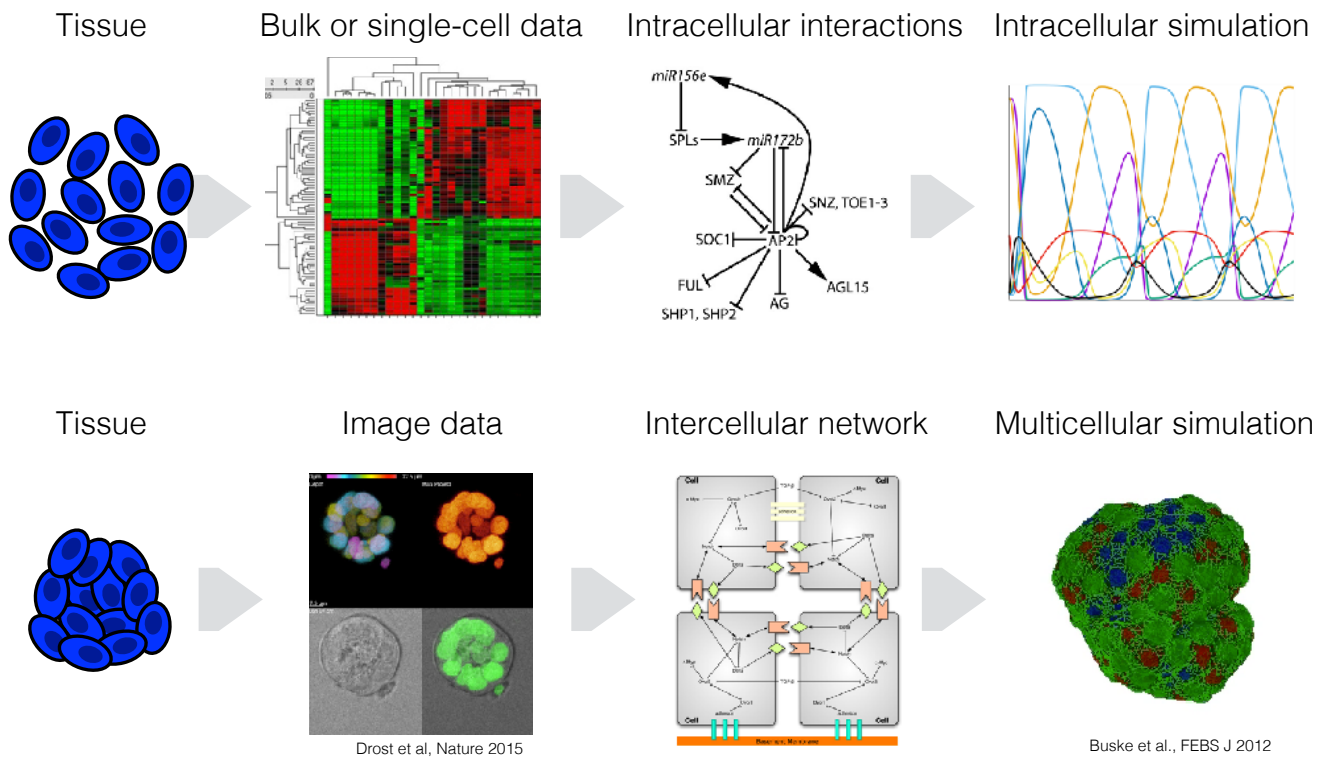
Multicellular systems biology



Multicellular systems biology



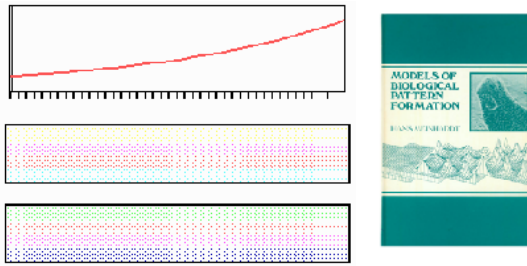
Multicellular Systems biology



Approaches
for tissue and multicellular modeling

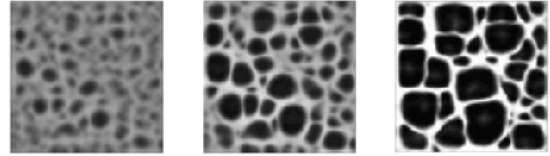
Tissue modeling: continuous approach

Drosophila segmentation



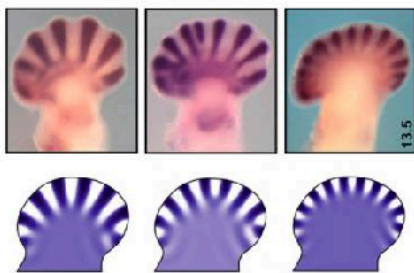
Hans Meinhardt, Models of Biological Pattern Formation 1982
The Algorithmic Beauty of Sea Shells 1998

Vascular patterning



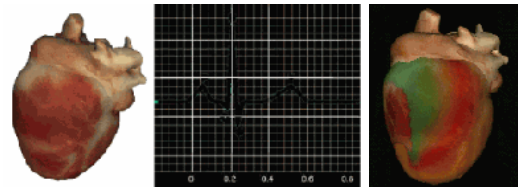
Manoussaki et al., Acta biotheoretica 1996

Limb morphogenesis



Sheth et al., Science 2012

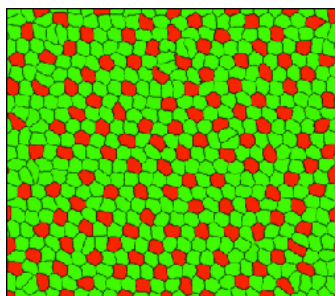
Cardiac physiology



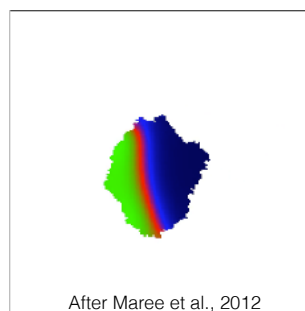
Fenton et al., Scholarpedia 2008

Tissue modeling: discrete / cell-based approach

Lateral inhibition

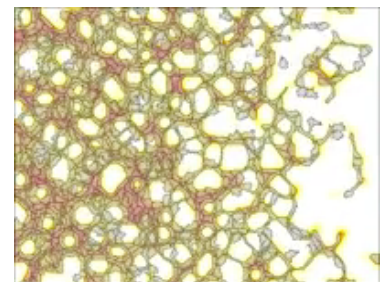


Single cell migration



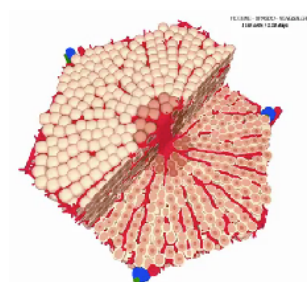
After Maree et al., 2012

Vascular Patterning



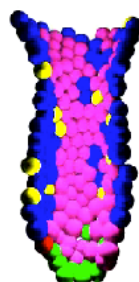
Köhn-Luque et al., 2013

Liver regeneration



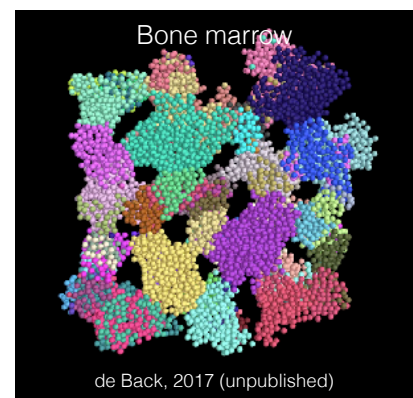
Hoehme et al., PNAS 2010

Intestinal crypt



Buske et al., 2011

Bone marrow



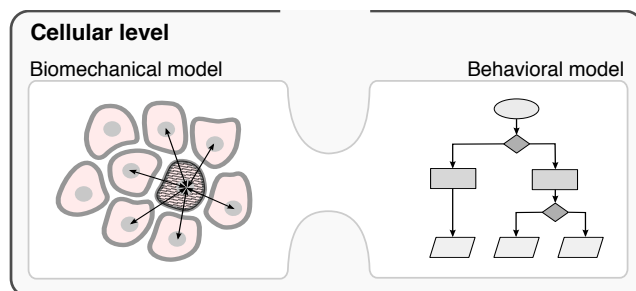
de Back, 2017 (unpublished)

Tissue modeling: discrete approach

- ▶ Tissue organization at cellular level
 - ▶ spatial structure
 - ▶ dynamic changes
- ▶ Cellular behavior
 - ▶ cell motility
 - ▶ cell division
 - ▶ cell adhesion
 - ▶ cell shape
 - ▶ etc.
- ▶ Multi-scale coupling
 - ▶ intracellular processes
 - ▶ extracellular gradients

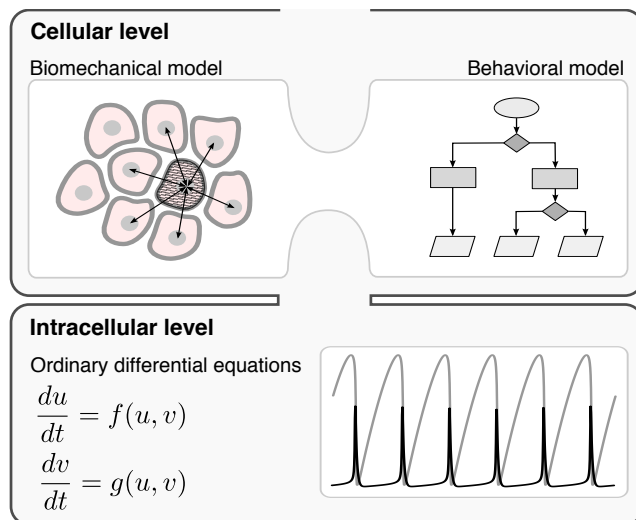
Cell-based modeling

- ▶ Tissue organization at cellular level
 - ▶ spatial structure
 - ▶ dynamic changes
- ▶ Cellular behavior
 - ▶ cell motility
 - ▶ cell division
 - ▶ cell adhesion
 - ▶ cell shape
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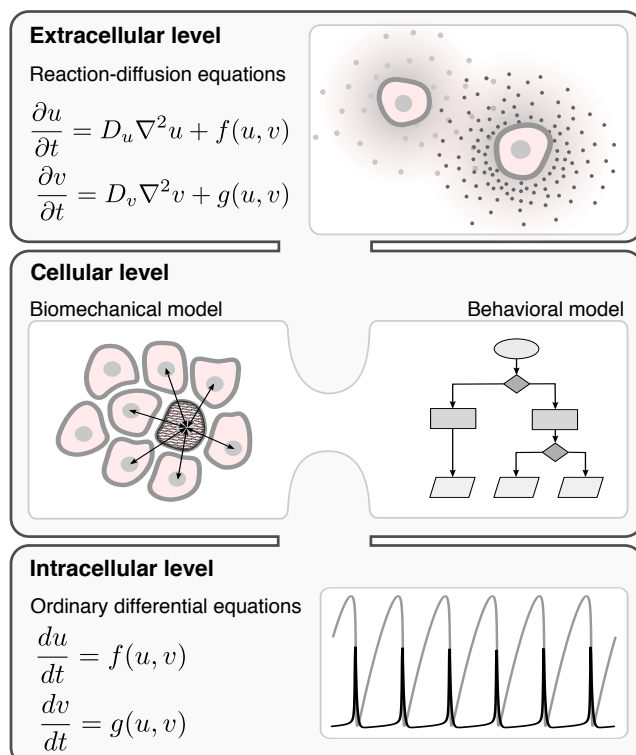
Multi-scale cell-based modeling

- ▶ Tissue organization at cellular level
 - ▶ spatial structure
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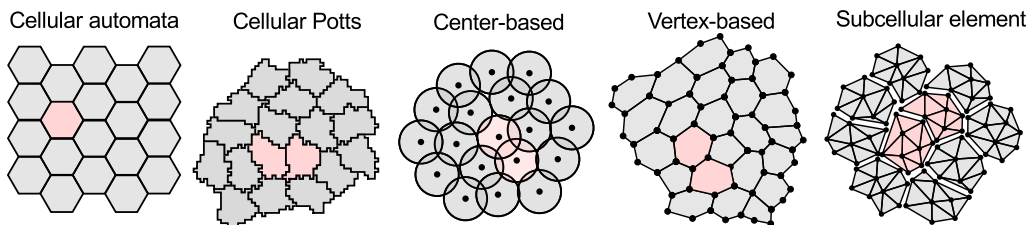
Multi-scale cell-based modeling

- ▶ Tissue organization at cellular level
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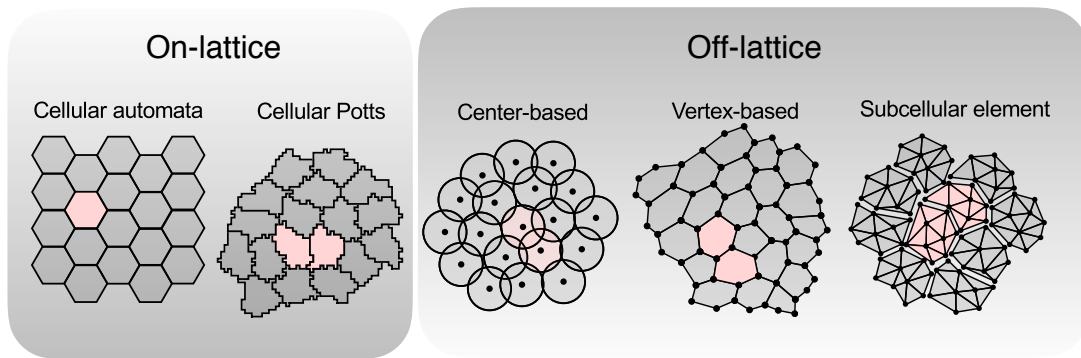


Mathematical and Computational Models *for cell-based modeling*

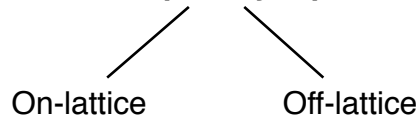
Different cell-based modeling approaches



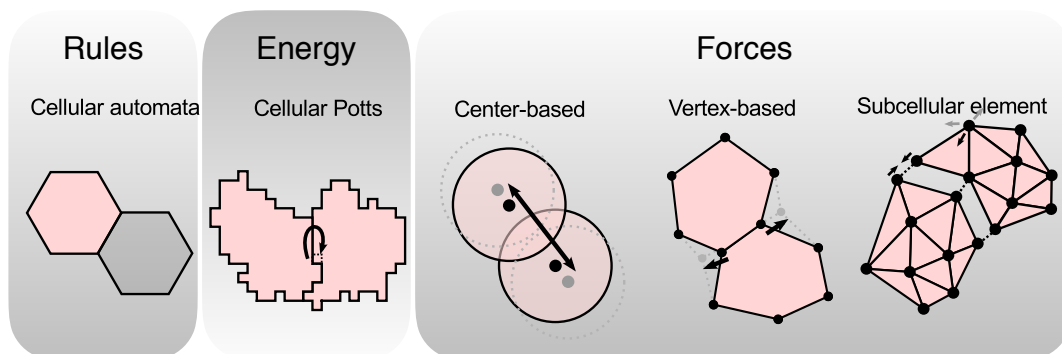
Different cell-based modeling approaches



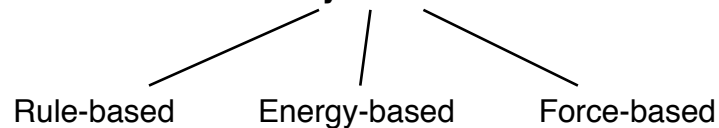
How are cell spatially represented?



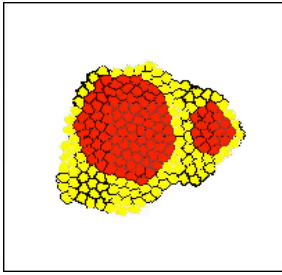
Different cell-based modeling approaches



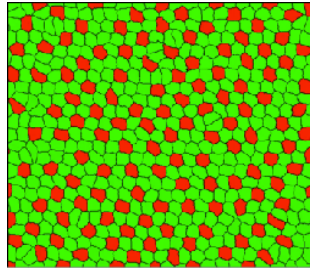
How is cell dynamics modelled?



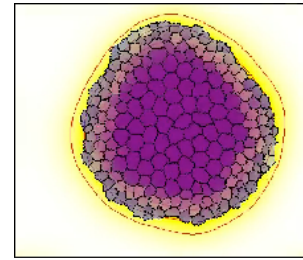
cell sorting



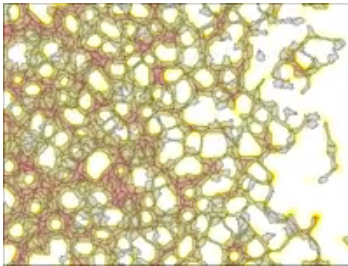
lateral inhibition



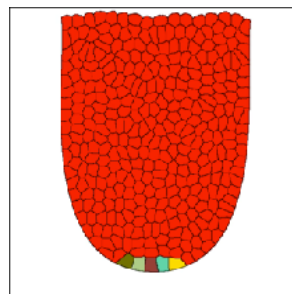
tissue growth



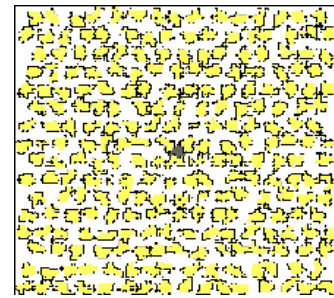
Cellular Potts model



vascular patterning



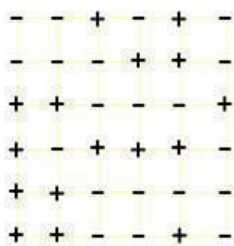
Stem cells in the intestinal crypt



Social life of Dictyostelium Discoideum

CPM: From Magnetization to Morphogenesis

Ising Model



2 states

$$\mathcal{H}_{\text{Ising}} = -\frac{J}{2} \sum_{(\vec{i}, \vec{j}) \text{ neighbors}} \sigma(\vec{i})\sigma(\vec{j})$$

static equilibrium statistics

random initial conditions

Potts Model



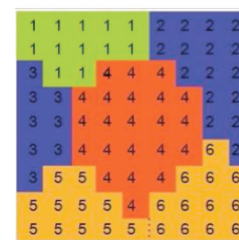
q states

$$\mathcal{H}_{\text{Potts}} = J \sum_{(\vec{i}, \vec{j}) \text{ neighbors}} (1 - \delta(\sigma(\vec{i}), \sigma(\vec{j}))) + \lambda \sum_{\sigma} (v(\sigma) - V_i(\sigma))^2$$

static equilibrium statistics

physically-motivated initial conditions and domain properties

Cellular Potts Model



q states (unique per domain)

$$\mathcal{H}_{\text{CPM}} = \sum_{(\vec{i}, \vec{j}) \text{ neighbors}} J(\tau(\sigma(\vec{i})), \tau(\sigma(\vec{j}))) (1 - \delta(\sigma(\vec{i}), \sigma(\vec{j}))) + \sum_{\sigma} \lambda_{\text{Vol}}(\tau) (v(\sigma) - V_i(\tau(\sigma)))^2$$

kinetics

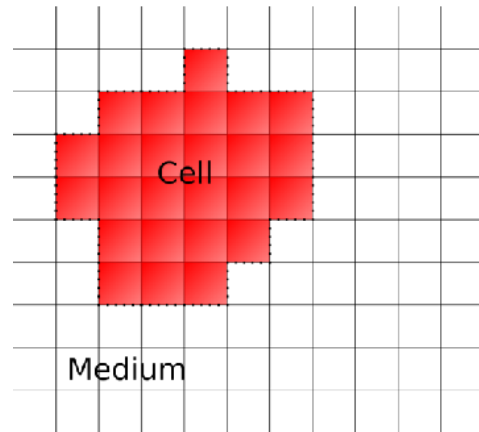
biologically-motivated initial conditions and domain properties

Cellular Potts model - cell size

Cell represented as a lattice domain

$$H = \sum_{\sigma > 0} (a_{\sigma} - A_{\sigma})^2$$

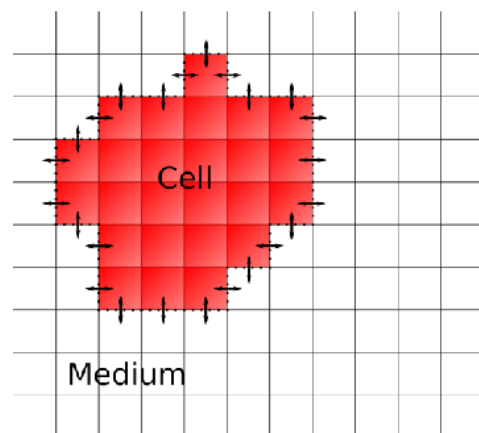
energy H
 actual area a_{σ}
 target area A_{σ}
 sum over cells $\sum_{\sigma > 0}$



Cellular Potts model - contact energy

$$H = \sum_{\text{interfaces}} J_{x,y} (1 - \delta_{x,y})$$

energy H
 contact energy $J_{x,y}$
 sum over interfaces $\sum_{\text{interfaces}}$
 between domains $(1 - \delta_{x,y})$

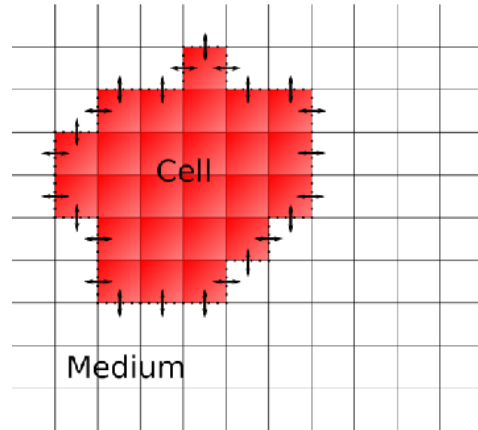


Contact	Cell	Medium
Cell	J_{CC}	J_{CM}
Medium	J_{CM}	—

Cellular Potts model - energy function

$$H = \sum_{\text{interfaces}} J_{x,y}(1 - \delta_{x,y}) + \sum_{\text{cells}} \lambda_A (a_\sigma - A_\sigma)^2$$

energy
adhesion
area constraint



Cellular Potts model - dynamics

Stochastic minimization of energy

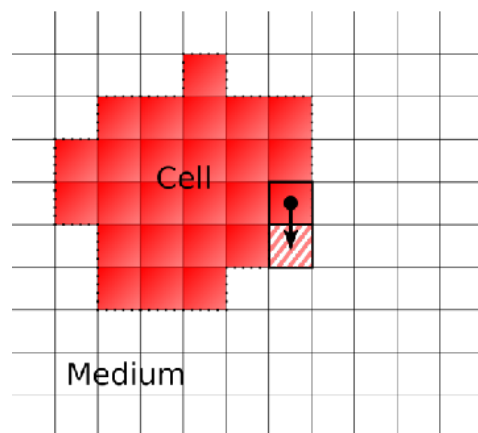
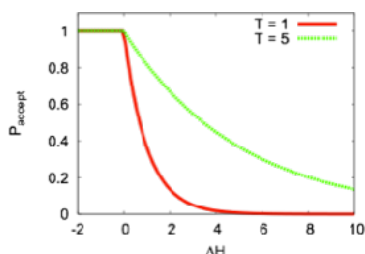
Modified Metropolis algorithm:

- Pick a random node
- Pick a second random node in neighborhood
- Compute energy difference ΔH if spin is copied:

$$\Delta H = H_{\text{after}} - H_{\text{before}}$$

- Probability to accept copy depends on ΔH :

$$P(\Delta H) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } \Delta H \leq 0 \\ e^{-\frac{\Delta H}{T}} & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$



Cellular Potts model - dynamics

Stochastic minimization of energy

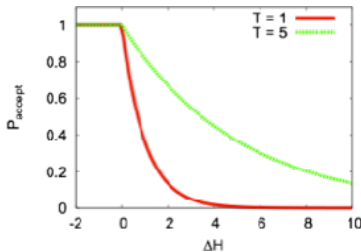
Modified Metropolis algorithm:

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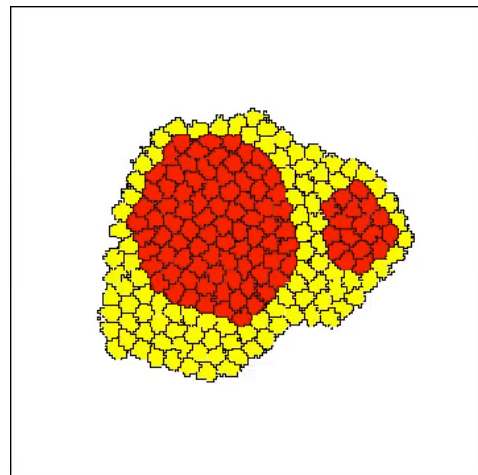
Cellular Potts model - cell sorting

Energy function (Hamiltonian):

energy	adhesion	area constraint
$H = \sum_{\text{interfaces}} J_{x,y}(1 - \delta_{x,y}) + \sum_{\text{cells}} \lambda_A (a_\sigma - A_\sigma)^2$		

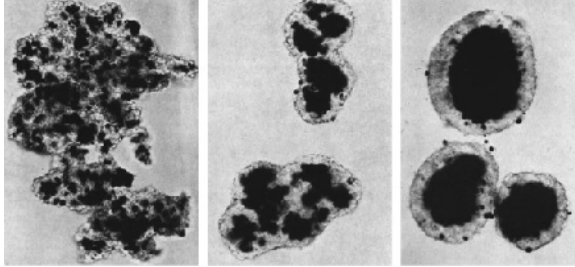
Energy minimization:

$$P(\Delta H) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } \Delta H \leq 0 \\ e^{-\frac{\Delta H}{T}} & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$



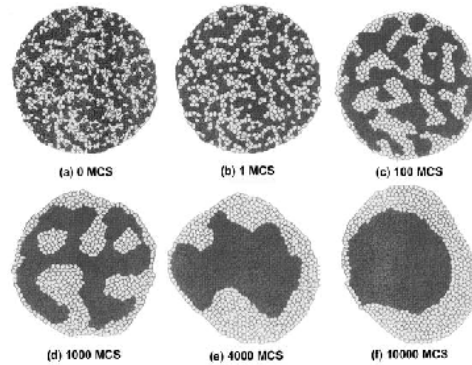
CPM: Modeling Cell Sorting

Experimental Observation



Differential adhesion hypothesis
(Steinberg 1963, Science)

Simulations



Cell sorting is an activated process
requiring membrane fluctuations
(Graner & Glazier 1992, Phys Rev Lett)

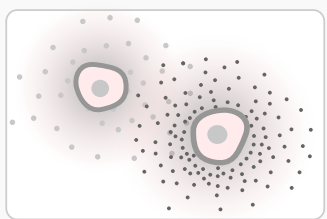
Multi-scale cell-based modeling using CPM

Extracellular level

Reaction-diffusion equations

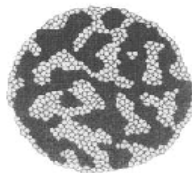
$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} = D_u \nabla^2 u + f(u, v)$$

$$\frac{\partial v}{\partial t} = D_v \nabla^2 v + g(u, v)$$

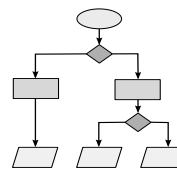


Cellular level

Biomechanical model



Behavioral model

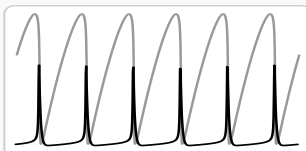


Intracellular level

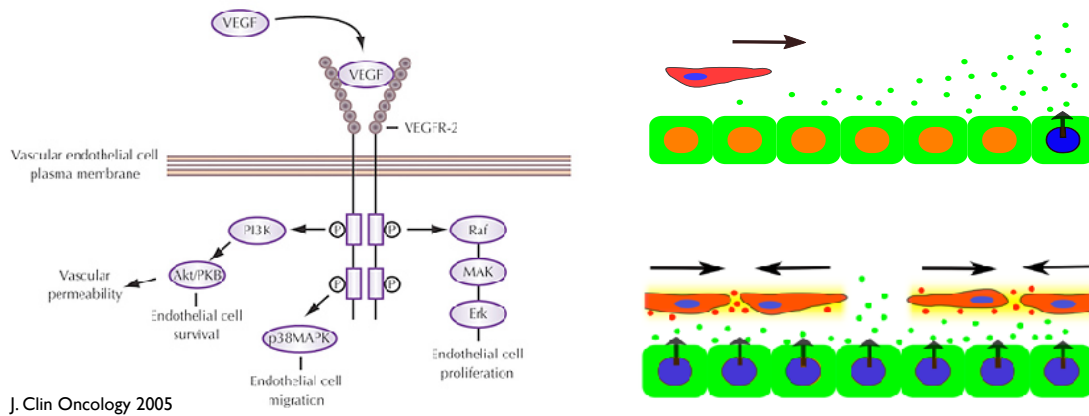
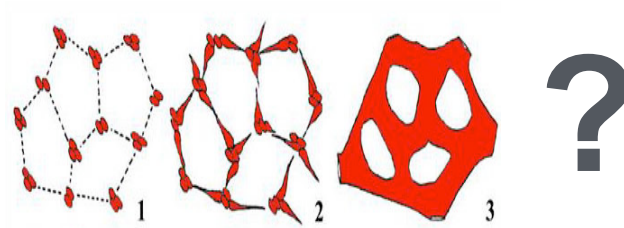
Ordinary differential equations

$$\frac{du}{dt} = f(u, v)$$

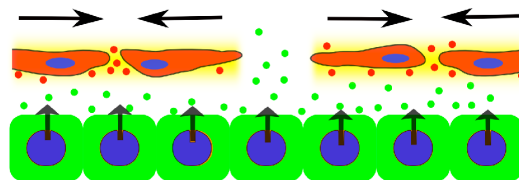
$$\frac{dv}{dt} = g(u, v)$$



Proposed Mechanism of Vascular Patterning

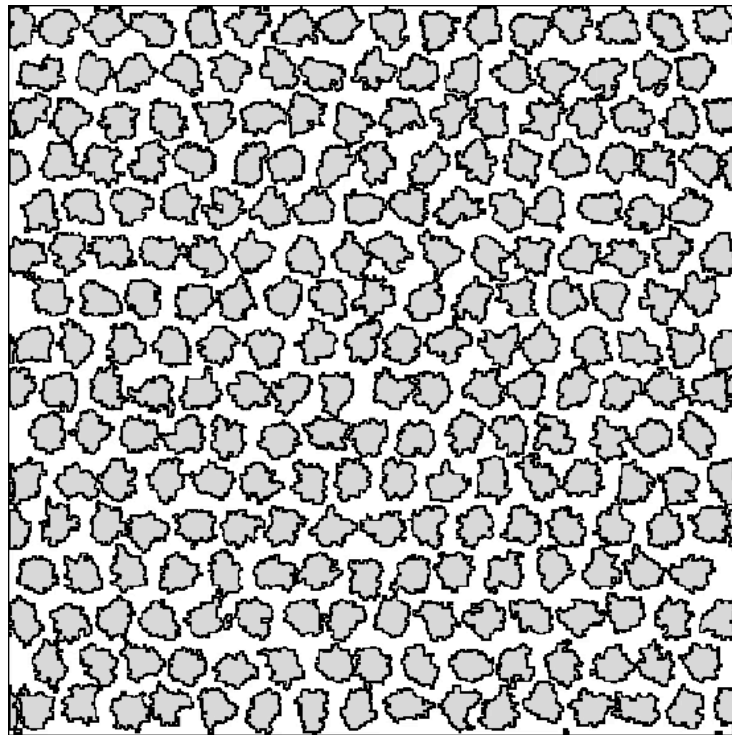


A hybrid cellular Potts model for vascular patterning




PDE	CPM
$\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} = D_u \Delta u - k_{on} u s + k_{off} b - \tau u$	$H = \sum_{\sigma > 0} (\lambda_a (a_\sigma - A)^2 + \lambda_p p_\sigma)$
$\frac{\partial s}{\partial t} = \gamma - k_{on} u s + k_{off} b$	$\Delta H_c = \Delta H + \mu (b_x - b_{x'})$
$\frac{\partial b}{\partial t} = k_{on} u s - k_{off} b,$	$P(\Delta H_c) = \begin{cases} 1 & \Delta H_c \leq 0 \\ e^{-\Delta H_c} & otherwise \end{cases}$
<p>$u \equiv$ unbound VEGF $s \equiv$ binding sites $b \equiv$ bound VEGF</p>	

A hybrid cellular Potts model for vascular patterning



Walter de Back
ContextVision AB

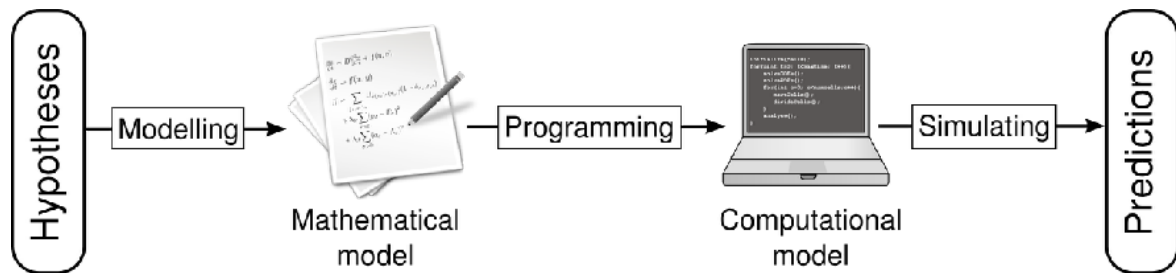
Jörn Starruß
Center for High
Performance Computing

 **Morpheus**
modeling environment for
multicellular systems biology



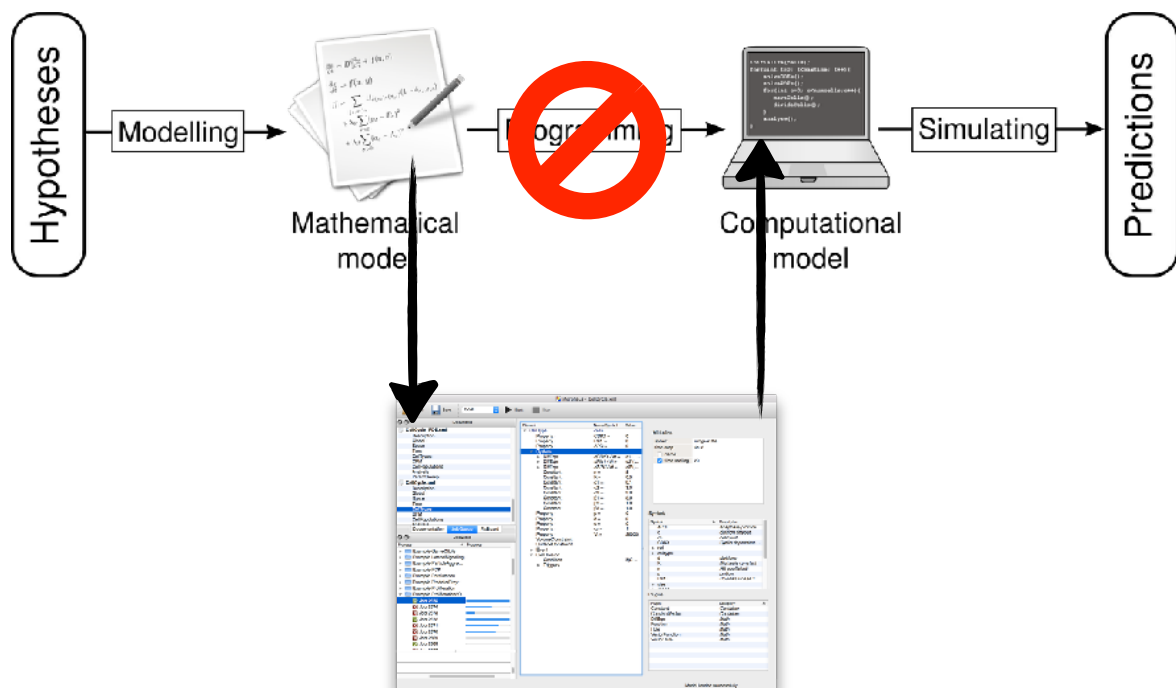
Computational modeling

Workflow



Computational modeling

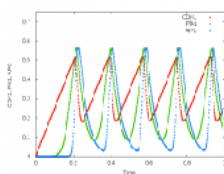
Without the need for programming



Modeling features

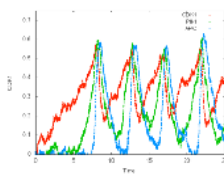
Differential equations

Gene regulatory and signaling networks



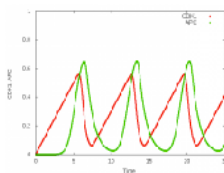
Ordinary differential equations

Euler, Heun, Runge-Kutta, adaptive time-step methods, stiff methods



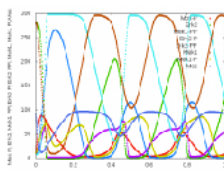
Stochastic differential equations

Heun-Maruyama



Delay differential equations

with constant delays

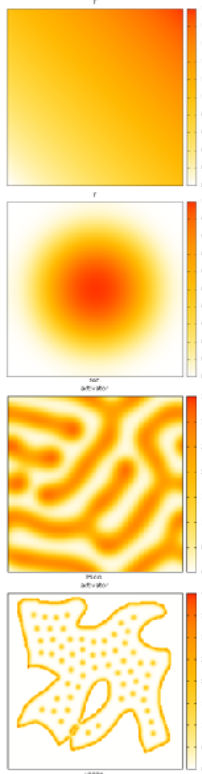


Import models in SBML format

e.g. from BioModels database

Reaction-diffusion systems

Morphogen gradients and intercellular signaling

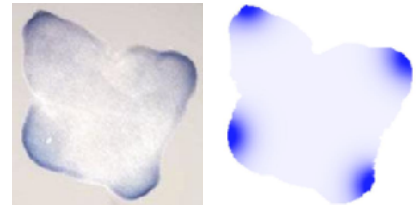


Static gradients
Scalar fields

Diffusion
Finite volume method

Reaction-diffusion systems
Operator-splitting method

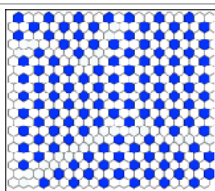
Import domains from images
TIFF format



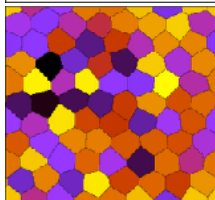
Brusch et al., *Curr Top Dev Biol*, 2014

Cell-based models

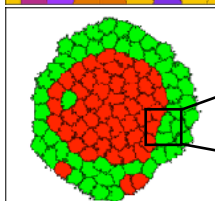
Cell shape, motility and surface mechanics



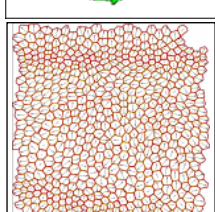
Discrete lattice
regular cell shape



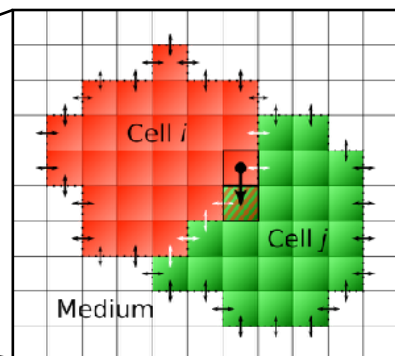
Voronoi tessellations
irregular cell shape



Cellular Potts model
cell shape and motility



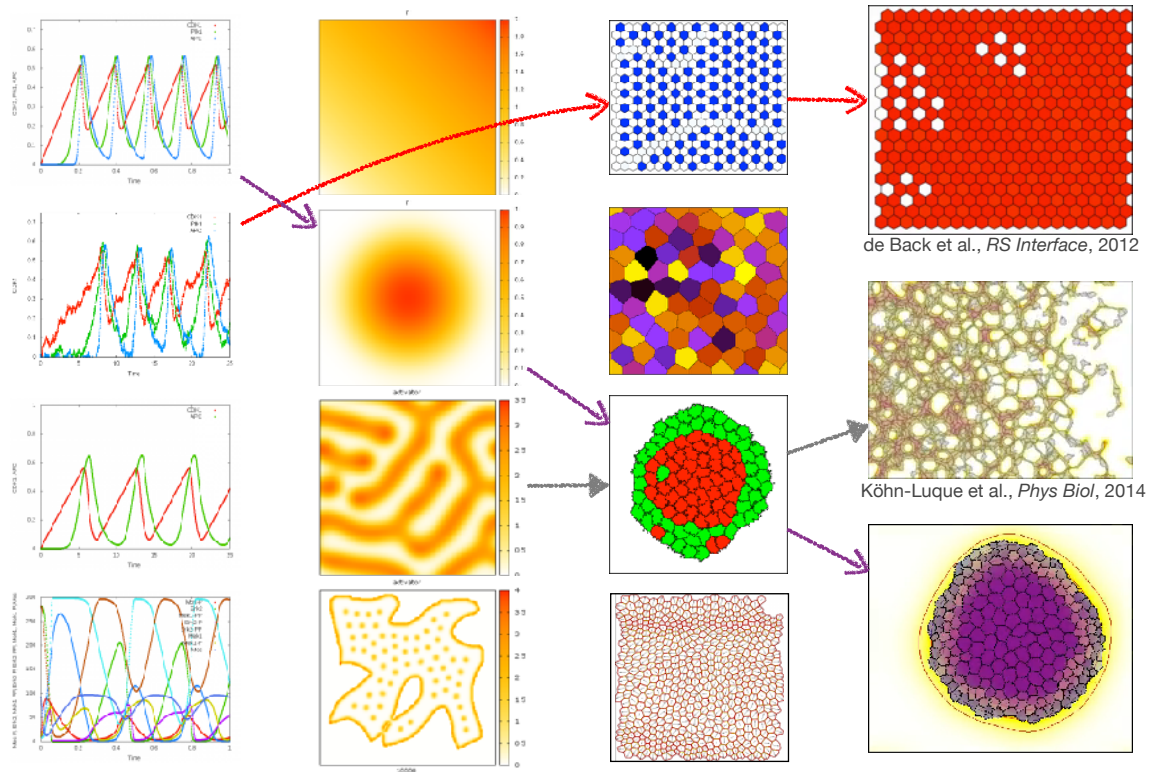
Import microscopy images
realistic cell shape



Graner and Glazier, PRL, 1992

Multi-scale models

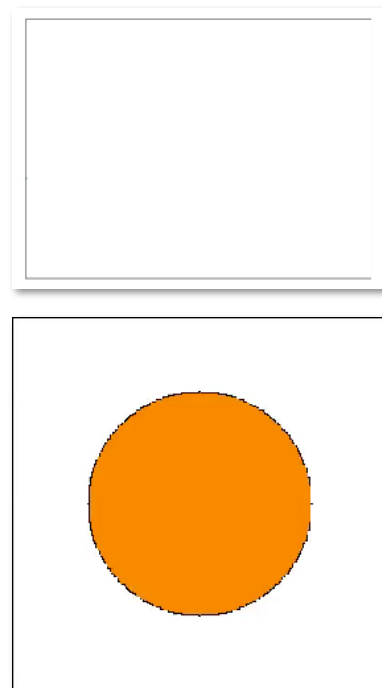
Coupling model formalisms



Multi-scale models

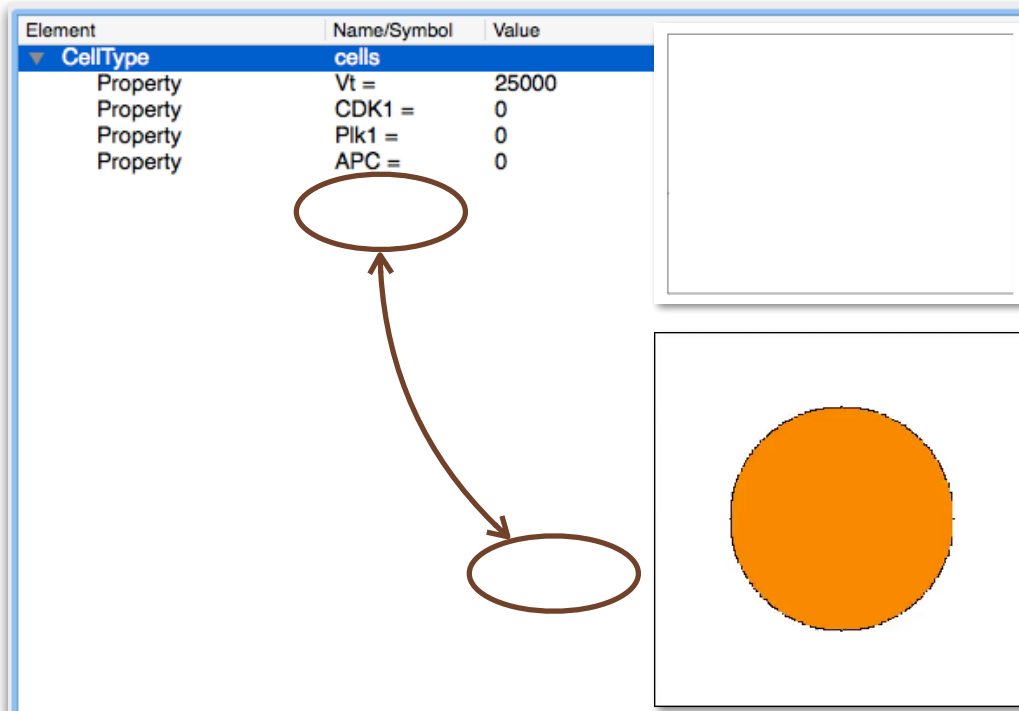
Cell cycle example

- Intracellular ODE model for cell cycle dynamics
- ↓
- Cell-based Potts model cell surface mechanics and cell division

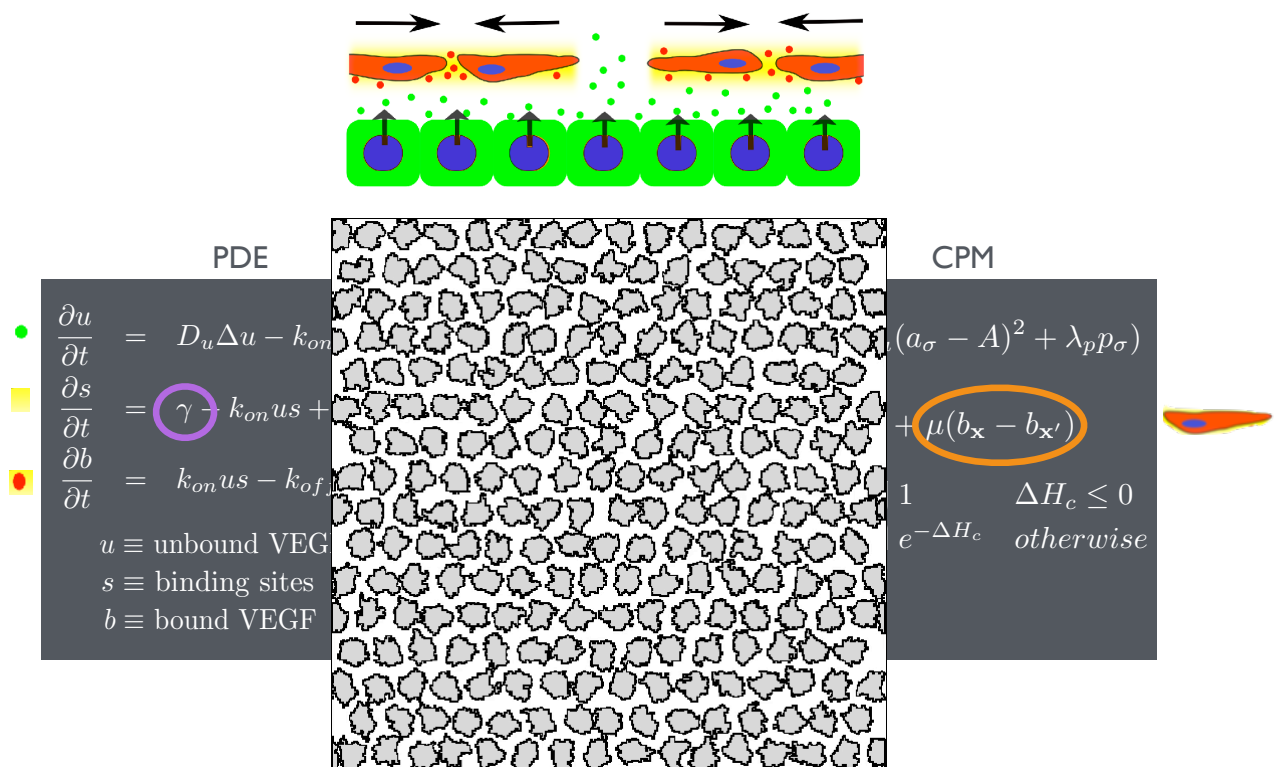


Multi-scale models

Cell cycle example



A hybrid cellular Potts model for vascular patterning



Multi-scale models

Vascular patterning example

Element	Name/Symbol	Value
Field	u =	1.5e-6
Field	s =	0
Field	b =	0
Field	VEGF_all =	0
System		
Constant	gamma =	5e-3
Constant	k_on =	8.5e-4
Constant	k_off =	3.6e-3
Constant	delta =	2.6e-6
DiffEqn	du / dt =	- k_on*u*s + k_off*b - delta*u
DiffEqn	ds / dt =	gamma*s*cell - k_on*u*s+k_off*b
Expression	db / dt =	k_on*u*s - k_off*b
DiffEqn	VEGF_all =	u+b
Constant	cell =	0.0
Constant	cell_density =	0.0045

Element	Name/Symbol	Value
CellType	HIVEC	
Property	cell =	1.0
Property	str =	3e7
VolumeConstraint		
Chemotaxis		
AddCell		
CellType	medium	

Attributes:

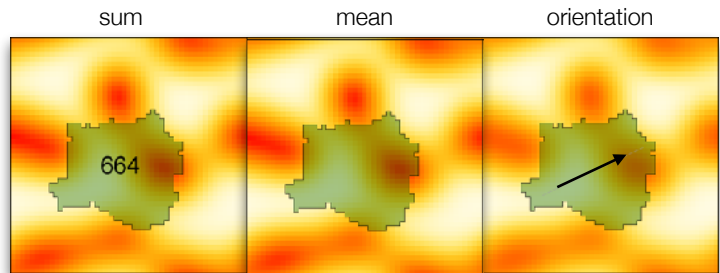
field	b
strength	str
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> contact-inhibition	false
<input type="checkbox"/> name	...
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> retraction	false

Multi-scale models

Mapping between different spatial contexts

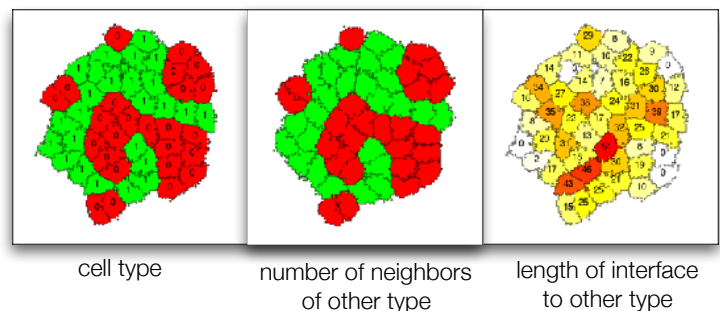
CellReporter

Collect data within cellular domain



NeighborhoodReporter

Collect data about cell's microenvironment

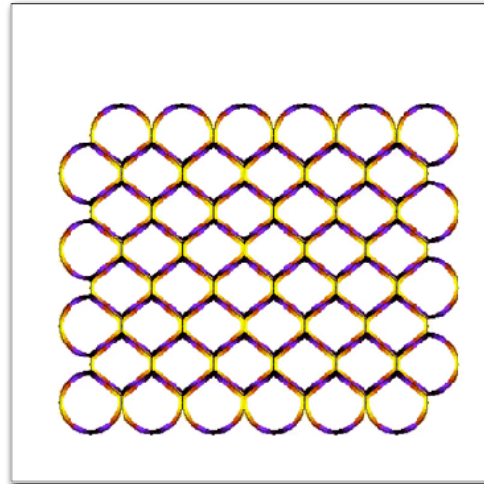


Multi-scale models

Mapping data to cell membranes

MembraneProperties

- Scalar field on cell membrane
- Couple to biomechanical properties



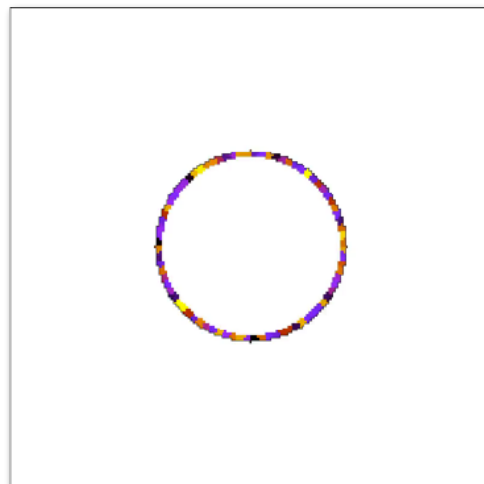
Ouchi et al., 2006

Multi-scale models

Mapping data to cell membranes

MembraneProperties

- Scalar field on cell membrane
- + System
- Reaction-diffusion on membrane



Multi-scale models

Mapping data to cell membranes

MembraneProperties

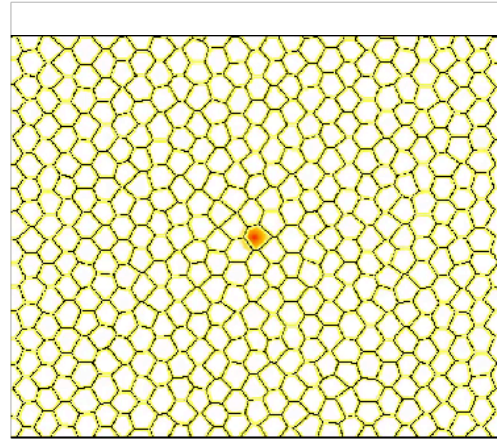
- Scalar field on cell membrane

+ System

- Reaction-diffusion on membrane

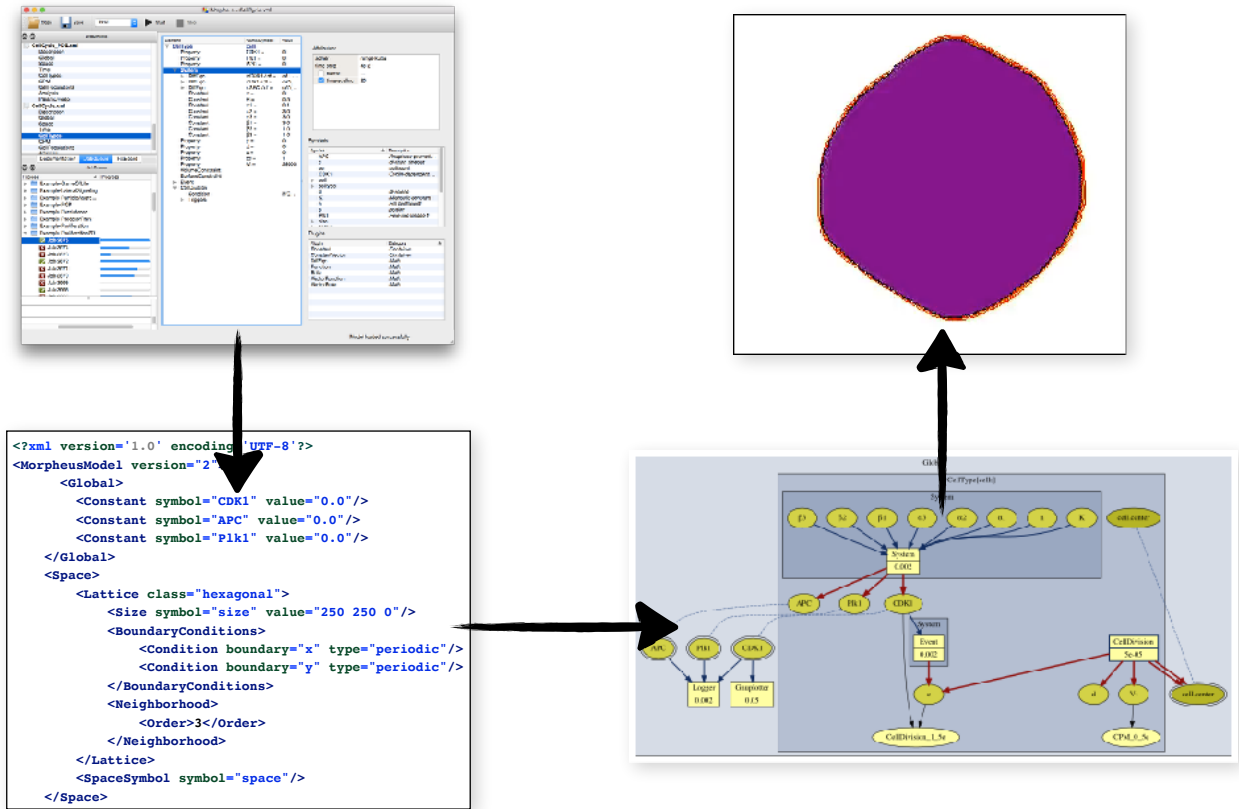
+ NeighborhoodReporter

- Modeling cell-cell signaling via membrane-bound ligands/receptors

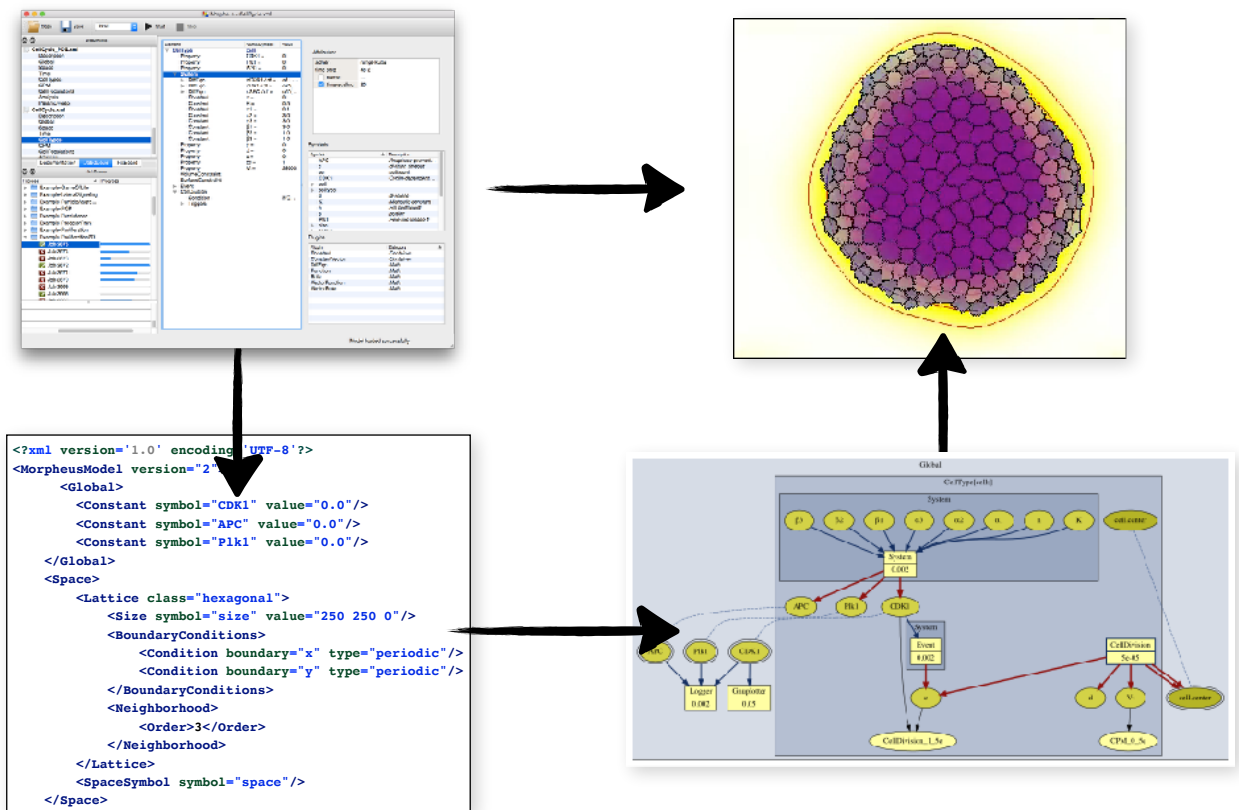


Automation and model integration

Convert mathematical models into simulations



Convert mathematical models into simulations



Plan for week 45

Monday 2 Nov

10:15 - 12:00, **Lecture:** Modelling multicellular systems using the cellular Potts model.

Tuesday 3 Nov

12:00 - 13:20, **Hands-on 1:** Getting started with the software Morpheus.

13:40 - 15:00, **Hands-on 2:** Simulation and analysis of simple models.

Cellular Potts model

Energy function (Hamiltonian):

energy	adhesion	area constraint

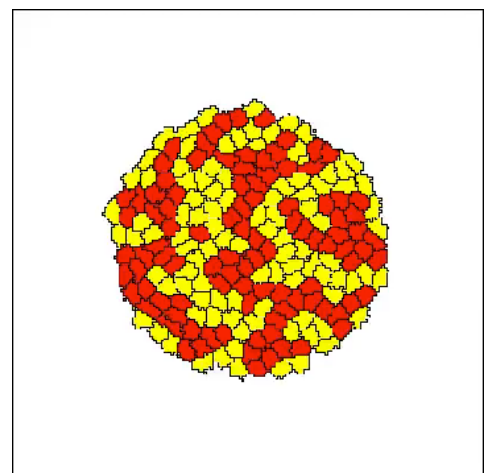
$$\mathcal{H} = \sum_{ij} \sum_{i'j'} J_{\tau(\sigma_{ij}), \tau(\sigma_{i'j'})} (1 - \delta_{\sigma_{ij}, \sigma_{i'j'}}) + \sum_{\sigma} \lambda (a_{\sigma} - A_{\tau(\sigma)})^2$$

Parameters:

J_{yy}	$J_{ry}=J_{yr}$	$J_{ym}=J_{my}$	λ	$A_y=A_r$
J_{rr}		$J_{rm}=J_{mr}$		

Modified Metropolis algorithm for energy minimization:

$$P(\Delta H) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } \Delta H \leq 0 \\ e^{-\frac{\Delta H}{T}} & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$





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Hands-on session 1: Getting started with Morpheus

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Oslo Centre for Biostatistics and Epidemiology
Faculty of Medicine
University of Oslo

Goals for hands-on session 1

1. Check out the GUI and run example models
2. Understand and edit the main components of a model
3. Construct a simple ODE model, export and visualize the data
4. Build a simple CPM model and visualize cells
5. Combine these models to create a multi-scale model.



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Hands-on session 2: Simulation and analysis of simple models

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Faculty of Medicine
University of Oslo

Goals for hands-on session 2

1. Select parameters for a parameter sweep analysis
2. Specify parameter ranges
3. Run a parameter sweep
4. Visualize sets of simulation results from a parameter sweep
5. Use a python notebook for further analysis