Mathematical Modeling and Computational Methods for the Tumor Microenvironment

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Outline

- 1. Overview of Ductal Carcinoma and Tumor Microenvironment
- 2. Cells-based Model
- 3. TGF- β /SMAD autocrine signaling pathway
- 4. Metabolism and Acidification
- 5. Numerical Results
- 6. Future Work

Some References

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Komjima et al, "Autocrine TGF-beta and SDF-1 ... ", PNAS, 2010

Kim and Othmer, A hybrid model of tumor-stromal interactions in breast cancer, *Bull Math Biol*, 2013

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Transition from normal duct to invasive tumor



Progression of Ductal Carcinoma



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Kalluri *et al. Nature Reviews Cancer* advance online publication; published online 30 March 2006 | doi:10.1038/nrc1877





Figure 1 | **Activated fibroblasts. a** | Normal fibroblasts are embedded within the fibrillar extracellular matrix (ECM) of connective tissue, which consists largely of type I collagen and fibronectin. Fibroblasts interact with their surrounding microenvironment through integrins such as the $\alpha_1\beta_1$ integrin. Typically, fibroblasts appear as fusiform cells with a prominent actin cytoskeleton and vimentin intermediate filaments. Although the detection of fibroblasts can be challenging because most known markers are not specific to fibroblasts, fibroblast-specific protein 1 (FSP1), which is a member of the family of S100 Ca²⁺-binding proteins, is specific for fibroblasts in normal tissues. **b** | Fibroblasts can acquire an activated phenotype, which is associated with an increased proliferative activity and enhanced secretion of ECM proteins such as type I collagen and tenascin C, and also fibronectin that contains the extra domain a (EDA-fibronectin) and SPARC (secreted protein acidic and rich in cysteine). Phenotypically, activated fibroblasts are often characterized as expressing α -smooth-muscle actin. Numerous growth factors such as transforming growth factor- β (TGF β), chemokines such as monocyte chemotactic protein 1 (MCP1), and ECM-degrading proteases have been shown to mediate the activation of fibroblasts.

Raghu Kalluri*‡§ and Michael Zeisberg* 2006

Many Mathematical Models

Continuum models for cell population

Agent based models

Cells-based models: hybrid models with discrete cells coupled with continuous fluid-mechanical, chemical and ion fields.

Single-cell model



Rejniak and Dillon A single-cell model of the ductal tumor architecture, *Comput Math Methods in Medicine*, 2007

Immersed Boundary Model Equations

$$\begin{array}{lll} \rho \frac{\partial \mathbf{u}}{\partial t} + \rho(\mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla) \mathbf{u} &=& -\nabla p + \mu(\nabla^2 \mathbf{u} + \frac{1}{3} \nabla S) + \mathbf{F} \\ \\ \nabla \cdot \mathbf{u} &=& S(c, \mathbf{x}, t) \end{array} \right\} \quad \text{Fluid Equations}$$

$$\begin{array}{ll} \displaystyle \frac{\partial \mathbf{X}}{\partial t} &=& \mathbf{u}(\mathbf{X}(s,t),t) \\ \\ \mathbf{F}(\mathbf{x},t) &=& \displaystyle \int_{\Gamma} \mathbf{f}(s,t) \delta(\mathbf{x}-\mathbf{X}(s,t)) ds \end{array} \right\} \hspace{1.5cm} \text{Boundary Motion}$$

Growth and Cell Division



Rejniak and Dillon, 2007

DCIS (ductal carcinoma in situ)



Rejniak and Dillon, Comput Math Methods in Medicine, 2007



(a) micropapillary

(b) tufts

(c) cribriform

(d) solid

Histological patterns of four ductal carcinomas:(a) micropapillary with trabecular bars, (b) tufts

both in the prostate tissue Bostwick, et al, *Human Pathology*, 1993

(c) cribriform, (d) solid

both in the breast tissue. Winchester et al, *Cancer Journal for Clinicians*, 2000

Tufting, Micropapillary, and Solid Patterns in DCIS



Rejniak and Dillon, 2007

Cells-based in vitro model



Similar in concept to Kim and Othmer, 2013

Cells-based microfluidic model





Sung et al, Integrative Biology, 2011

TGF-Beta and SDF-1 Autocrine Signaling



Kojima et al, PNAS, 2010

Receptor Trafficking



TGF/SMAD



exterior Domain

$$\frac{dR}{dt} = k_1^{-}TR - k_1^{+}T \cdot R + k_d TR$$

$$\frac{dTR}{dt} = k_1^{+}T \cdot R | -k_1^{-}TR + k_T^{-}TRS - k_T^{+}TR \cdot S + k_T^{0}TRS - k_d TR$$

$$\frac{dTRS}{dt} = k_T^{+}TR \cdot S - k_T^{-}TRS - k_T^{0}TRS$$

$$\frac{dS}{dt} = k_T^{-}TRS - k_T^{+}|TR \cdot S + k_SS_P$$

$$\frac{dS_P}{dt} = k_T^{0}TRS - k_SS_P$$

$$\frac{dT^{in}}{dt} = \frac{r_1S_P^{2}}{r_2^{2} + S_P^{2}} - k_3T^{in}$$
Exterior Domain

$$\nabla \cdot [-D_T \nabla T] = \int [(k_1^{-}TR - k_1^{+}T \cdot R)\delta\{x(s) - x\}] ds$$

Cell Surface





$$\frac{dR}{dt} = k_1^- TR - k_1^+ T \cdot R + k_d TR$$

$$\frac{dTR}{dt} = k_1^+ T \cdot R | -k_1^- TR + k_T^- TRS - k_T^+ TR \cdot S + k_T^0 TRS - k_d TR$$

$$\frac{dTRS}{dt} = k_T^+ TR \cdot S - k_T^- TRS - k_T^0 TRS$$

$$\frac{dS}{dt} = k_T^- TRS - k_T^+ | TR \cdot S + k_S S_P$$

$$\frac{dS_P}{dt} = k_T^0 TRS - k_S S_P$$

$$\frac{dM^i}{dt} = \frac{r_1 S_P^2}{r_2^2 + S_P^2} - k_M M^i \cdot$$

$$\nabla \cdot \left[-D_{M^o} \nabla M^o \right] = \oint [k_a k_M M^i \delta \{ \mathbf{x}(\mathbf{s}) - \mathbf{s} \}] ds - \gamma_1 M^o$$

$$\nabla \cdot \left[-D_T \nabla T \right] = \oint [(k_1^- \overline{TR} - k_1^+ T \cdot R) \delta \{ \mathbf{x}(\mathbf{s}) - \mathbf{s} \}] ds + \gamma_2 T^i M^o$$

Cell Surface

Exterior Domain

Immersed Interface Method

$$\nabla \cdot \left[-D_T \nabla T\right] = \int \left[\left(k_1^- TR - k_1^+ T \cdot R\right) \delta \left\{x(s) - x\right\} \right] ds$$

$$T^{out} - T^{in} = [T] = w(s)$$
$$D_{T,out} \frac{\partial T^{out}}{\partial n} - D_{T,in} \frac{\partial T^{in}}{\partial n} = \left[D \frac{\partial T}{\partial n} \right] = v(s)$$

LI, Zhilin , A fast iterative algorithm for elliptic interface problems, SIAM J. Num Anal, 1998



Clark et al, Molecular and Cellular Biology, 2009

Comparison with experimental data



Clark et al, Molecular and Cellular Biology, 2009

Parameter	Description	Value	Refs
k_1^+	Association (TGF- β)	4.44 nM⁻¹min⁻¹	(Chung et al., 2009; Schmierer et al., 2008)
k_1^-	Dissociation (TGF- β)	2.4×10 ⁻¹ min ⁻¹	(Chung et al., 2009; Schmierer et al., 2008)
k_T^+	Association (Smad)	2.4×10 ⁻² nM ⁻¹ min ⁻¹	(Chung et al., 2009)
k_T^-	Dissociation (Smad)	3.96×10 ⁻¹ min ⁻¹	(Chung et al., 2009)
k_T^0	Phosphorylation (Smad)	2.4×10 ⁻¹ min ⁻¹	(Chung et al., 2009)
k _s	Dephosphorylation (Smad)	3.96×10 ⁻¹ - 3.96×10 ¹ min ⁻¹	(Chung et al., 2009)

exterior Domain

$$\frac{dR}{dt} = k_1^{-}TR - k_1^{+}T \cdot R + k_d TR$$

$$\frac{dTR}{dt} = k_1^{+}T \cdot R | -k_1^{-}TR + k_T^{-}TRS - k_T^{+}TR \cdot S + k_T^{0}TRS - k_d TR$$

$$\frac{dTRS}{dt} = k_T^{+}TR \cdot S - k_T^{-}TRS - k_T^{0}TRS$$

$$\frac{dS}{dt} = k_T^{-}TRS - k_T^{+}|TR \cdot S + k_SS_P$$

$$\frac{dS_P}{dt} = k_T^{0}TRS - k_SS_P$$

$$\frac{dT^{in}}{dt} = \frac{r_1S_P^{2}}{r_2^{2} + S_P^{2}} - k_3T^{in}$$
Exterior Domain

$$\nabla \cdot [-D_T \nabla T] = \int [(k_1^{-}TR - k_1^{+}T \cdot R)\delta\{x(s) - x\}] ds$$

Cell Surface

No Internal TGF Production









With Internal TGF Production













NO TGF Productiom

With cellular TGF production

1-3 Cells With Internal TGF Production













Glycolysis Model

Under normal oxygen levels glucose is converted to pyruvic acid and through the Krebs cycle to ATP

Under low oxygen levels the pyruvic acid ferments to lactic acid with a reduced level of ATP production

In what is known as the Warburg effect, tumor cells continue to convert glucose to ATP with enhanced lactate production even in the presence of normal oxygen levels. This results in an increased production of H+, a lowering of the pH and increased acidity in the tumor environment.



Kinetics of the Casciari model

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{dC_i}{dt} &= P_i \end{aligned}$$

$$P_o = -\rho_c \Biggl[A_o + \frac{B_o}{C_g C_k^m} \Biggr] \Biggl[\frac{C_o}{C_o + k_{mo}} \Biggr] \qquad P_h = k_f C_c - k_r C_b C_h - P_o + P_i \end{aligned}$$

$$P_g = -\rho_c \Biggl[A_g + \frac{B_g}{C_o} \Biggr] \Biggl[\frac{1}{C_k^m} \Biggr] \Biggl[\frac{C_g}{C_g + k_{mg}} \Biggr] \qquad P_b = k_f C_c - k_r C_b C_h - P_o \end{aligned}$$

$$P_c = -k_f C_c + k_r C_b C_h \qquad P_c = 0 \end{aligned}$$

o, g, c, h, l, b, cl, s: oxygen, glucose, CO2, hydrogen ion, lactate, bicarbonate, chloride, sodium

Casciari et al, Cell Proliferation, 1992

Nernst-Planck Equations for ions and chemicals

$$\frac{\partial C_i}{\partial t} + \nabla \cdot N_i = S_i$$

$$N_i = -D_i \nabla C_i + \omega_i z_i C_i E + C_i V$$

Inside Cells

$$\nabla \cdot (\varepsilon_{\epsilon} \nabla \phi) = -\rho_{\epsilon} = -F \sum_{i} z_{i} C_{i}$$

Electric Field $E = -\nabla \phi$

$$\frac{dC_i}{dt} = P_i + Flux_i$$

Interface Conditions

$$[D_i \frac{\partial C_i}{\partial n}] = J_i$$

Nonionic Species

$$J_i = k_i (C_i^{out} - C_i^{in}),$$

Goldman-Hodgkin-Katz

$$J_{i} = -k_{i} \frac{z_{i}F}{RT} \Delta \phi \left[\frac{C_{i}^{in} - C_{i}^{out} \exp\left(-\frac{z_{i}F}{RT} \Delta \phi\right)}{1 - \exp\left(-\frac{z_{i}F}{RT} \Delta \phi\right)} \right]$$

$$\Delta \phi = \phi^{in} - \phi^{out} = \frac{RT}{F} \ln \left[\frac{\sum\limits_{Cation} k_+ C_+^{out} + \sum\limits_{Anion} k_- C_-^{in}}{\sum\limits_{Cation} k_+ C_+^{in} + \sum\limits_{Anion} k_- C_-^{out}} \right]$$

 $[C_i] = (C_i^{out} - C_i^{in})$
PDEs have the form: $\nabla \cdot (\beta(x) \nabla c(x)) = f(x)$

Can be solved with the immersed interface method * with an appropriate choice of interface jump conditions

$$[c] = g(x) \qquad [\beta c_n] = h(x)$$

Note that with periodic boundary conditions the solution is not unique. At each time step we add a constant chosen to enforce conservation of mass so that the net change in the ECM equals the net secretion from the cells.







pH Variation







 ϕ Variation







0.0004-0.210 0.00035 0.209 0.209 0.0003 0.208 0.208 0.208 0.208 0.00025 0.208 0.208 **(u**) 0.0002 0.208 0.207 0.207 0.00015 0.207 0.207 0.207 0.191 0.177 0.0001 5E-05-0.0002 X (m) 0.0001 0.0003 0.0004



Oxygen Concentration



Oxygen



Glucose



CO2

In progress and future work

Develop full multicellular models for both in vitro and microfluidic cell culture

Develop TGF- β models with SDF-1 and EGF cross talk

Develop a fluid/mechanical model of the ECM based on an IB Lagrangian mesh model (Dillon and Zhuo, 2011)

Longer timescale model for cell growth



Glycolysis Kinetics

$$dc_i/dt = P_i + Flux_i$$

Component	Reaction term
Oxygen (a)	$P_a = -\Omega \left(A_a + \frac{B_a}{C_b C_g^m} \right) \left(\frac{C_a}{C_a + K_{ma}} \right)$
Gluocose (b)	$P_{b} = -\Omega \left(A_{b} + \frac{B_{b}}{C_{a}}\right) \left(\frac{1}{C_{g}^{n}}\right) \left(\frac{C_{b}}{C_{b} + K_{mb}}\right)$
Lactate ion (c)	$P_c = -(2P_b - P_a/3)$
Carbon dioxide (d)	$P_d = -k_f C_d + k_r C_e C_g$
Bicarbonate (e)	$P_e = k_f C_d - k_r C_e C_g - P_a$
Chloride (f)	$P_f = 0$
Hydrogen ion (g)	$P_g = k_f C_d - k_r C_e C_g - P_a + P_c$

Casciari et al, Cell Prolif, 1992

Interface Conditions for Concentration

Uncharged Species

$$[c_i] = c_i^{out} - c_i^{in}$$



 $k_i = mass transfer coefficient$

Interface Conditions for Concentration

Charged Species

 $[C_i] = C_i^{out} - C_i^{in}$







Interface Conditions for Concentration

Charged Species

 $\begin{bmatrix} C_i \end{bmatrix} = C_i^{out} - C_i^{im}$







Interface Conditions for Potential





S. G. Shultz, Basic Principles of Membrane Transport, 1980















 $\overline{TRS} \rightarrow \overline{TR} + S_p$







 $S_p \to S$ $S_p \to T$



Figure 3 | Functions of activated fibroblasts in the tumour stroma. Fibroblasts communicate with cancer cells, resident epithelial cells, endothelial cells, pericytes and inflammatory cells through the secretion of growth factors and chemokines. Through the increased deposition of collagen types I and III and *de novo* expression of tenascin C they induce an altered extracellular-matrix microenvironment, which potentially provides additional oncogenic signals, probably leading to accelerated cancer progression. Fibroblasts mediate the inflammatory response by secreting chemokines such as monocyte chemotactic protein 1 (MCP1) and interleukins such as IL-1. Fibroblasts interact with the microvasculature by secreting matrix metalloproteinases (MMPs) and vascular endothelial growth factor (VEGF). Fibroblasts also provide potentially oncogenic signals such as transforming growth factor- β (TGF β) and hepatocyte growth factor (HGF) to resident epithelia, and directly stimulate cancer-cell proliferation and invasion by secreting growth factors such as TGF β and stromal-cell-derived factor 1 (SDF1).

Raghu Kalluri*‡§ and Michael Zeisberg* 2006





Nernst-Planck Equations

$$\vec{J}^{i} = -D^{i}\nabla C^{i} - \omega^{i}z^{i}C^{i}\nabla\psi + C^{i}\vec{u}$$

$$\frac{\partial C^{i}}{\partial t} = -\nabla \cdot \vec{J}^{i} + P^{i}$$

$$\nabla \cdot (\varepsilon \varepsilon_0 \nabla \psi) = -\rho_e = -F \sum_{i=1}^N z^i C^i$$

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{dR}{dt} &= k_1^- \overline{TR} - k_1^+ T \cdot R \\ \frac{d\overline{TR}}{dt} &= k_1^+ T \cdot R - k_1^- \overline{TR} + k_T^- \overline{TRS} - k_T^+ \overline{TR} \cdot S + k_T^0 \overline{TRS} \\ \frac{d\overline{TRS}}{dt} &= k_T^+ \overline{TR} \cdot S - k_T^- \overline{TRS} - k_T^0 \overline{TRS} \end{aligned}$$

$$\frac{dS}{dt} = k_T^- \overline{TRS} - k_T^+ \overline{TR} \cdot S + k_s S_p$$
$$\frac{dS_p}{dt} = k_T^0 \overline{TRS} - k_s S_p$$

$$\frac{dT}{dt} = k_1^- \overline{TR} - k_1^+ T \cdot R + \frac{r_1 S_p^n}{r_2^n + S_p^n}$$

Mathematical Modeling and Computational Methods for the Tumor Microenvironment

WSU Math/Bio Seminar February 23, 2016 Robert Dillon

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r1 = 0.06, r2=0.035,n=1



Model Equations

$$\frac{|dR|}{dt} = k_1^- TR - k_1^+ T \cdot R + k_d TR$$
$$\frac{dTR}{dt} = k_1^+ T \cdot R - k_1^- TR + k_T^- TRS - k_T^+ TR \cdot S + k_T^0 TRS - k_d TR$$
$$\frac{dTRS}{dt} = k_T^+ TR \cdot S - k_T^- TRS - k_T^0 TRS$$
$$\frac{dS}{dt} = k_T^- TRS - k_T^+ TR \cdot S + k_S S_P$$
$$\frac{dS_P}{dt} = k_T^0 TRS - k_S S_P$$
$$\frac{dT^m}{dt} = \frac{r_1 S_P^2}{r_2^2 + S_P^2} - k_3 T^m$$

$$\nabla \cdot \left[-D_T \nabla T\right] = \int \left[\left(k_1^{-} T R - k_1^{+} T \cdot R\right) \delta \left\{x(s) - x\right\} \right] ds - \gamma_3 T$$

Extracellular Domain

$$\mathsf{MMP} \qquad \nabla \cdot [-D\nabla M^\circ] = \int S_2 \,\delta(x(s) - s) \, ds - \gamma_1 M^\circ$$

MMP Secretion $AS_1 = LS_2$

Activated TGF- β $\nabla \cdot [-D\nabla T^{a}] = \int (k_{1}^{-} \overline{TR} - k_{1}^{+} T^{a} \cdot R) \delta(x(s) - s) ds + \gamma_{2} T^{i} M^{o} - \gamma_{3} T^{a}$

TGF-β Autocrine Signaling Without MMP

$$\nabla \cdot \left[-D\nabla T^{a}\right] = \int \left(S_{2} + \left(k_{1}^{-} \overline{TR} - k_{1}^{+}T^{a} \cdot R\right)\right) \delta(x(s) - s) \, ds - \gamma_{3}T^{a}$$



$$T + R \xleftarrow[k_1^+]{k_1^+} \overline{TR}$$

$$\overline{TR} + S \xleftarrow[k_T^+]{k_T^-} \overline{TRS} \xrightarrow[k_T^0]{TR} \overline{TR} + S_p$$

 $S_p \stackrel{r_1}{\rightarrow} T$

k $S_p \xrightarrow{k_{\$}} S$

variable	symbol
$TGF-\beta$	Т
TGF- β receptor	R
Unphosphorylated Smad	S
PhosphorylatedSmad	S_p

Ligand Binding:
$$T + R \underbrace{k_1^+}_{R_1^-} \overline{TR}$$

Smad Reaction: $\overline{TR} + S \underbrace{k_1^-}_{R_1^-} \overline{TRS}$

Phosphorylation of Smad: $\overline{TRS} \xrightarrow{k_T} \overline{TR} + S_p$ Reversion of phosphorylated Smad: $S_p \xrightarrow{k_s} S$

$$\frac{dR}{dt} = k_1^{-}\overline{TR} - k_1^{+}T \cdot R + R_{prod} - k_d R$$
$$\frac{d\overline{TR}}{dt} = k_1^{+}T \cdot R - k_1^{-}\overline{TR} + k_T^{-}\overline{TRS} - k_T^{+}\overline{TR} \cdot S + k_T^{0}\overline{TRS} - k_d\overline{TR}$$
$$\frac{d\overline{TRS}}{dt} = k_T^{+}\overline{TR} \cdot S - k_T^{-}\overline{TRS} - k_T^{0}\overline{TRS} - k_d\overline{TRS}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{dR}{dt} &= k_1^- \overline{TR} - k_1^+ T \cdot R \\ \frac{d\overline{TR}}{dt} &= k_1^- \overline{TR} - k_1^+ T \cdot R + k_T^- \overline{TRS} - k_T^+ \overline{TR} \cdot S + k_T^0 \overline{TRS} \\ \frac{d\overline{TRS}}{dt} &= k_T^+ \overline{TR} \cdot S - k_T^- \overline{TRS} - k_T^0 \overline{TRS} \end{aligned}$$

Cell Surface

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{dS}{dt} &= k_T^- \overline{TRS} - k_T^+ \overline{TR} \cdot S + k_s S_p \\ \frac{dS_p}{dt} &= k_T^0 \overline{TRS} - k_s S_p \\ \frac{dM^i}{dt} &= \frac{r_1 S_p^2}{r_2^2 + S_p^2} - S_1 \end{aligned}$$

Cell Interior

MMP Secretion $S_1 = \mathbf{k} \mathbf{M}^i$

Extracellular Domain

$$\mathsf{MMP} \qquad \nabla \cdot [-D\nabla M^\circ] = \int S_2 \,\delta(x(s) - s) \, ds - \gamma_1 M^\circ$$

MMP Secretion $AS_1 = LS_2$

Activated TGF- β $\nabla \cdot [-D\nabla T^{a}] = \int (k_{1}^{-} \overline{TR} - k_{1}^{+} T^{a} \cdot R) \delta(x(s) - s) ds + \gamma_{2} T^{i} M^{o} - \gamma_{3} T^{a}$

TGF-β Autocrine Signaling Without MMP

$$\nabla \cdot \left[-D\nabla T^{a}\right] = \int \left(S_{2} + \left(k_{1}^{-} \overline{TR} - k_{1}^{+}T^{a} \cdot R\right)\right) \delta(x(s) - s) \, ds - \gamma_{3}T^{a}$$
TGF-β Autocrine Signaling (periodic boundary conditions)



TGF-MMP Autocrine Signaling



x 10⁻⁵ 0.027 0.026 0.025 0.024 0.023 0.022 0.021 0.02 0.019 0.018 4 2 10 x 10⁻⁵



TGF



MMP

Free Receptors







TR complex

TRS complex

Activated Smad

TGF-beta Autocrine Signaling







TGF-Line

MMP-Line







Surface TGF

Surface MMP







