Modeling Tumor Growth Using a Morphoelastic Biomechanical Model

Duncan den Bakker Supervised by Fred Vermolen



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Contents

Tumor Growth Model

Mechanical Model

Morphoelasticity Poroelasticity

Biochemical Model



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Biochemical Model



Tumor Growth

- Combining mechanical & biochemical models
- Morphoelasticity
- Poroelasticity
- Nutrient transport
- Tumor cell growth





$$\begin{split} \rho\left(\frac{D\boldsymbol{v}}{Dt} + (\nabla \boldsymbol{\cdot} \boldsymbol{v})\boldsymbol{v}\right) - \nabla \boldsymbol{\cdot} \boldsymbol{\sigma} + \nabla p + \gamma \nabla \Phi &= \boldsymbol{g},\\ \frac{D\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}}{Dt} + \boldsymbol{\varepsilon} \mathsf{skw}(\nabla \boldsymbol{v}) - \mathsf{skw}(\nabla \boldsymbol{v})\boldsymbol{\varepsilon} + (\mathsf{tr}(\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}) - 1)\,\mathsf{sym}(\nabla \boldsymbol{v}) &= -\boldsymbol{G},\\ \nabla \boldsymbol{\cdot} \boldsymbol{v} - \nabla \boldsymbol{\cdot} (k\nabla p) &= f. \end{split}$$

Biochemical equations

$$\frac{Dc}{Dt} + (\nabla \cdot \boldsymbol{v})c - \nabla \cdot (kc\nabla p + \lambda_N \nabla c) = -\Phi N(c),$$
$$\frac{D\Phi}{Dt} + (\nabla \cdot \boldsymbol{v})\Phi - F(\overline{\sigma})\Phi(1-\Phi)M(c) + r_{\mathsf{d}}\Phi = 0.$$

Unknowns:

$$\boldsymbol{v}, \boldsymbol{\varepsilon}, p, c, \Phi$$



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Morphoelasticity - Permanent Deformations

Strain tensor evolution

$$\frac{D\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}}{Dt} + \boldsymbol{\varepsilon}\mathsf{skw}(\nabla \boldsymbol{v}) - \mathsf{skw}(\nabla \boldsymbol{v})\boldsymbol{\varepsilon} + (\mathsf{tr}(\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}) - 1)\,\mathsf{sym}(\nabla \boldsymbol{v}) = -\boldsymbol{G}$$

 $\blacktriangleright G = \alpha \varepsilon.$



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Poroelasticity - Oscillations

Problematic equation

$$\nabla \cdot \boldsymbol{v} - \nabla \cdot (k \nabla p) = f$$

Discretization

 $D\boldsymbol{v} + kL\boldsymbol{p} = \boldsymbol{f}$







Stabilization - Bubble Functions

Add bubble functions to test space

$$\blacktriangleright \varphi_b = 27\varphi_1\varphi_2\varphi_3$$





Stabilization - Bubble Functions







Tumor Growth

Stabilization - Diffusive

Recall discretization

$$D\boldsymbol{v} + kL\boldsymbol{p} = \boldsymbol{f}$$

Artifically increase diffusion

$$D\boldsymbol{v} + (k+\beta)L\boldsymbol{p} = \boldsymbol{f}^*$$





Stabilization - Determine Optimal β

- How to choose β ?
- Simple case

$$\rho\left(\frac{D\boldsymbol{v}}{Dt} + (\nabla \cdot \boldsymbol{v})\boldsymbol{v}\right) - \nabla \cdot \boldsymbol{\sigma} + \nabla p = \boldsymbol{g},$$
$$\nabla \cdot \boldsymbol{v} - \nabla \cdot (k\nabla p) = f.$$

- 1D, uniform grid
- Discretization

$$\begin{pmatrix} \rho M + \theta S & -\Delta t D^{\top} \\ D & kL \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \boldsymbol{v} \\ \boldsymbol{p} \end{pmatrix} = \cdots$$

Decouple

$$(kL + \Delta tD(\rho M + \theta S)^{-1}D^{\top})\mathbf{p} = \cdots$$



Stabilization - Determine Optimal β

• Approximate
$$(\rho M + \theta S)^{-1}$$

Solve

$$\rho u - \theta u'' = \delta(x - x_i)$$

Solution vector close to i'th column

Obtain

$$\beta = \frac{h^2 \Delta t}{4\theta}$$



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Biochemical Model

- Paper by Roose
- Oxygen only nutrient
- Convection diffusion equation:

$$\frac{Dc}{Dt} + (\nabla \cdot \boldsymbol{v})c - \nabla \cdot (kc\nabla p + \lambda_N \nabla c) = -\Phi N(c)$$

Nutrient absorption:

$$N(c) = \frac{N_{\max}c}{c_N + c}.$$

Source function for Φ :

$$S = F(\overline{\sigma})\Phi(1-\Phi)M(c) - r_{\mathsf{d}}\Phi$$



Biochemical Model - Example

- Start with constant $\Phi = 0.01$
- Initial domain is the unit square



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- Quantifying total strain
- Different boundary conditions
- Collaboration with Spain



Sources

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