

# A continuum theory of multiphase mixtures for modelling biological growth

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# Outline

- Introduction
- A Lagrangian perspective  $\Leftrightarrow$  Chapter 2
- Some representative numerical simulations  $\Leftrightarrow$  Chapter 3
- An Eulerian perspective  $\Leftrightarrow$  Chapter 4
- Some more representative numerical simulations  $\Leftrightarrow$  Chapter 5
- Conclusions

# The motivating question

- *What constitutes an ideal environment for tissue growth?*



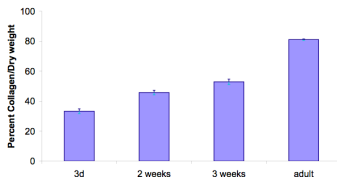
Engineered tendon constructs (Calve et al. [2004])

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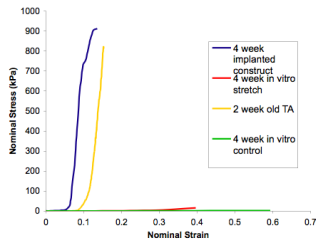
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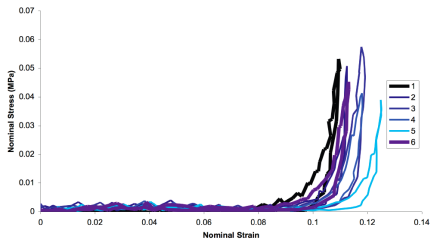
Increasing collagen concentration with age

- *Growth* involves an addition or depletion of mass

# Some experimental observations

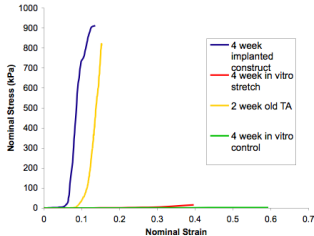


Uniaxial tensile response (Calve et al.)

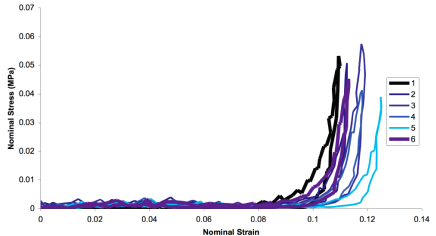


Response under cyclic load (Calve et al.)

# Some experimental observations



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Response under cyclic load (Calve et al.)

- *What causes the tissue to behave in this manner?*
- Modelling of the coupled mechanics  $\Rightarrow$  Stiffness of the tissue and fluid transport  $\Rightarrow$  Nutrient transport  $\Rightarrow$  Tissue growth

# Modelling approach

## Classical balance laws enhanced via fluxes and sources

- Solid – Collagen, proteoglycans, cells
  - Extra cellular fluid
    - Undergoes transport relative to the solid phase
  - Dissolved solutes (sugars, proteins, ...)
    - Undergo transport relative to the fluid
- 
- Cowin and Hegedus [1976], Epstein and Maugin [2000]
  - Humphrey and Rajagopal [2002], *Garikipati et al. [2004]*
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# Modelling approach

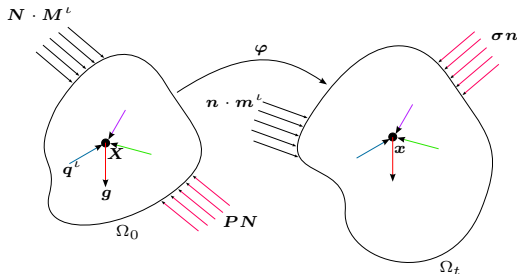
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# The governing equations—Lagrangian perspective



## Reference quantities:

- $\rho_0^l$  – Species concentration
- $\Pi^l$  – Species production rate
- $M^l$  – Species relative flux
- $V^l$  – Species velocity
- $g$  – Body force
- $q^l$  – Interaction force
- $P^l$  – Partial First Piola Kirchhoff stress

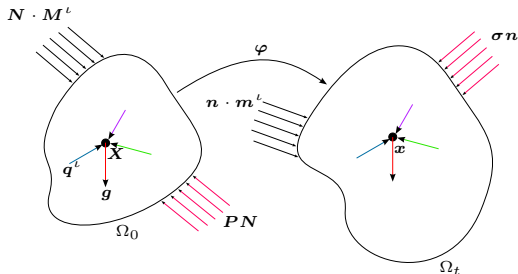
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$$\frac{\partial \rho_0^l}{\partial t} = \Pi^l - \nabla_X \cdot M^l$$

- Momentum balance:

$$\rho_0^l \frac{\partial V^l}{\partial t} = \rho_0^l (g + q^l) + \nabla_X \cdot P^l - (\nabla_X V^l) M^l$$

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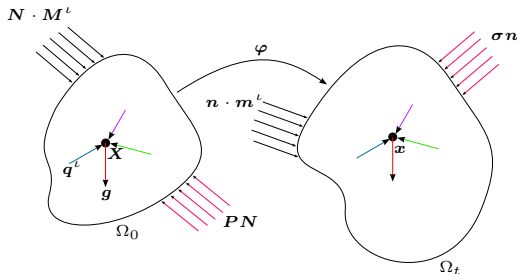
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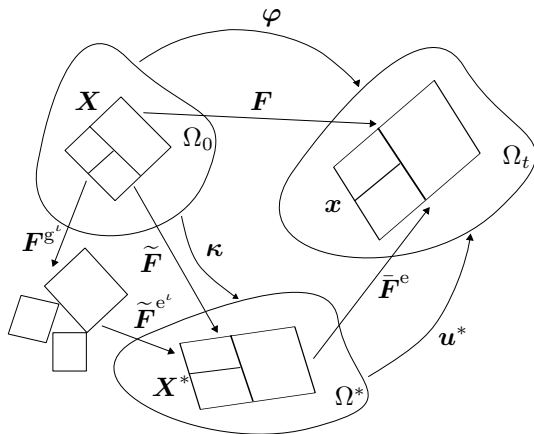
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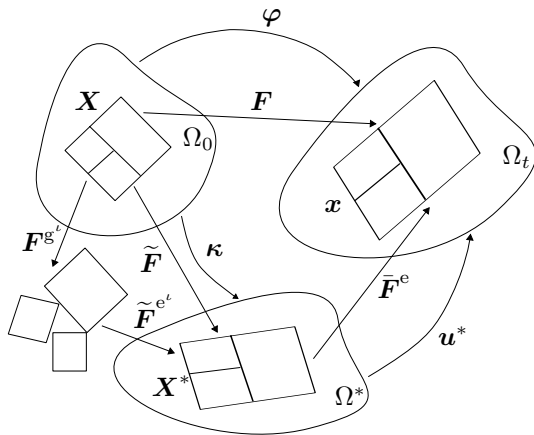
# Growth kinematics



- $F = \bar{F}^e \tilde{F}^{e^t} F^{g^t}$ ;  $F^{e^t} = \bar{F}^e \tilde{F}^{e^t}$ ; Internal stress due to  $\tilde{F}^{e^t}$

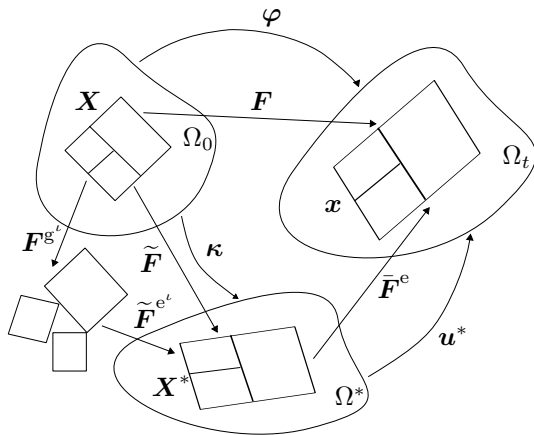
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- Saturation and swelling

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# Solving the balance equations in practice—A first pass

- Close the equations with thermodynamically-consistent constitutive relationships
  - Solid: Hyperelastic material,  $\mathbf{P}^c = \rho_0^c \frac{\partial e^c}{\partial \mathbf{F}^{ec}} \mathbf{F}^{gc-T}$   
Helmholtz free energy derived from entropic elasticity-based worm-like chain model
  - Fluid: Ideal,  $\det(\mathbf{F}^{ef})^{-1} \mathbf{P}^f \mathbf{F}^{efT} = h'(\rho^f) \mathbf{1}$

$$h(\rho^f) = \frac{1}{2} \kappa^f \left( \frac{\rho_{0ini}^f}{\rho^f} - 1 \right)^2$$



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- Sum species momentum balances to solve system-level balance law
  - Reduce number of partial differential equations by one
  - Avoid specification of  $\mathbf{q}^\iota$ , because  $\sum_{\iota} (\rho_0^\iota \mathbf{q}^\iota + \Pi^\iota \mathbf{V}^\iota) = 0$

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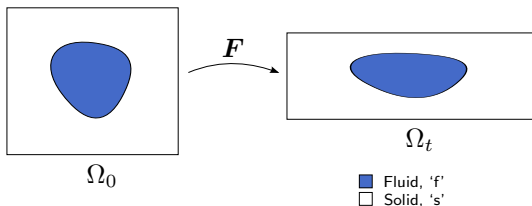
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- System-level motion determined, utilise a constitutive relationship to determine relative fluid flux

$$\mathbf{M}^f = \mathbf{D}^f \left( \rho_0^f \mathbf{F}^T \mathbf{g} + \mathbf{F}^T \nabla_X \cdot \mathbf{P}^f - \nabla_X (e^f - \theta \eta^f) \right)$$

# Assumptions on the micromechanics

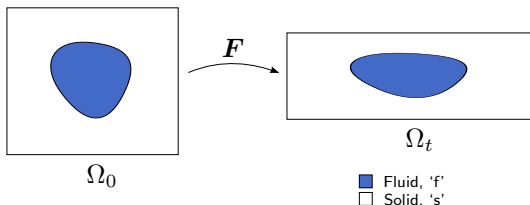
1. *Upper bound* model from strain homogenisation:



Pore structure deforms with the solid phase  $\Rightarrow$  Fluid-filled pore spaces see the overall deformation gradient

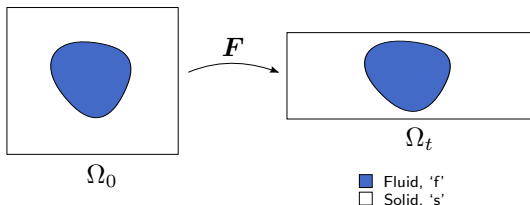
# Assumptions on the micromechanics

1. *Upper bound* model from strain homogenisation:



Pore structure deforms with the solid phase  $\Rightarrow$  Fluid-filled pore spaces see the overall deformation gradient

2. *Lower bound* model from stress homogenisation:



Fluid pressure in the current configuration is the same as hydrostatic stress of the solid,  $p^f = \frac{1}{3} \text{tr}[\sigma^s]$

3. More precise bounds exist, e.g. Idiart and Castañeda [2003]

# An operator-splitting solution scheme

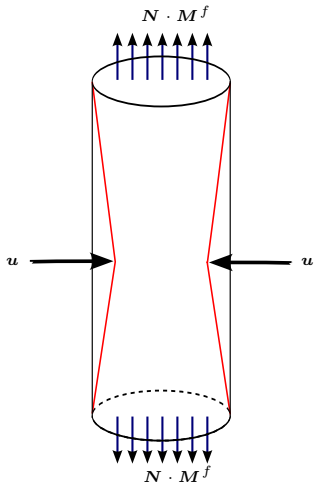
- Nonlinear projection methods to treat incompressibility
- Backward Euler for time-dependent mass balance
- Mixed method for stress/strain gradient-driven fluxes
- Large advective terms stabilised using SUPG
- Coupled implementation; staggered scheme

At each time step, repeat:

- Fixing the concentration fields, solve the mechanics problem for displacements,  $\mathbf{u}$
- Fixing the displacement field, solve the mass transport problem for the concentration field,  $\rho^f$

until both problems converge

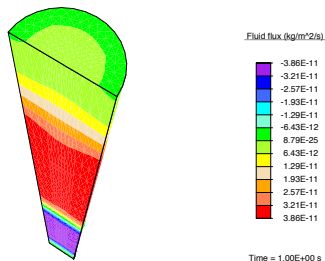
# Constriction of a tendon immersed in a bath



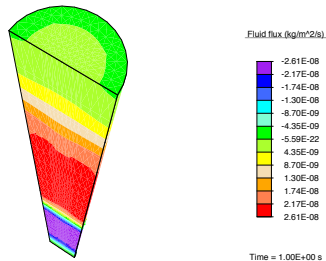
- Simulating a tendon immersed in a bath
- Constrict it radially to force fluid flow
- Biphasic model
  - Worm-like chain model for collagen
  - Ideal, nearly incompressible fluid
- Mobility from Han et al. [2000]

## Evolution of the reference fluid concentration

# Implications of the assumptions



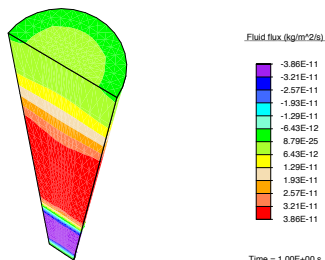
Lower bound vertical fluid flux



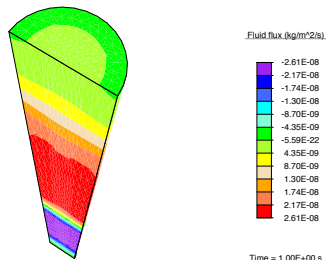
Upper bound vertical fluid flux



# Implications of the assumptions



Lower bound vertical fluid flux



Upper bound vertical fluid flux

- Strength of coupling:  $C = \frac{\delta p^f}{\frac{1}{3} \delta \text{tr}[\boldsymbol{\sigma}^s]}$
- Upper bound:  $C \approx \frac{O(\kappa^f \delta \mathbf{F} : \mathbf{F}^{-\text{T}})}{O(\kappa^s \delta \mathbf{F} : \mathbf{F}^{-\text{T}})} = O\left(\frac{\kappa^f}{\kappa^s}\right) \gg 1$
- Lower bound:  $C = 1$

# A closer look at the convergence

Pass	Strongly coupled		Weakly coupled	
	Mechanics Residual	CPU (s)	Mechanics Residual	CPU (s)
1	$2.138 \times 10^{-02}$	29.16	$6.761 \times 10^{-04}$	28.5
	$3.093 \times 10^{-04}$	55.85	$1.075 \times 10^{-04}$	55.1
	$2.443 \times 10^{-06}$	82.37	$4.984 \times 10^{-06}$	81.8
	$2.456 \times 10^{-08}$	109.61	$1.698 \times 10^{-08}$	107.9
	$4.697 \times 10^{-14}$	135.83	$3.401 \times 10^{-13}$	134.1
	$1.750 \times 10^{-16}$	163.18	$1.1523 \times 10^{-17}$	161.1
2	$5.308 \times 10^{-06}$	166.79	$5.971 \times 10^{-08}$	192.5
	$4.038 \times 10^{-10}$	193.36	$4.285 \times 10^{-11}$	218.6
	$1.440 \times 10^{-14}$	220.45	$2.673 \times 10^{-15}$	246.1
	$4.221 \times 10^{-17}$	247.04		
3	$5.186 \times 10^{-06}$	250.62	$2.194 \times 10^{-09}$	277.3
	$3.852 \times 10^{-10}$	277.44	$2.196 \times 10^{-13}$	304.2
	$1.369 \times 10^{-14}$	304.16	$1.096 \times 10^{-17}$	331.6
	$4.120 \times 10^{-17}$	331.47		
4	$5.065 \times 10^{-06}$	335.16	$8.160 \times 10^{-11}$	363.2
	$3.674 \times 10^{-10}$	362.24	$7.923 \times 10^{-15}$	390.2
	$1.300 \times 10^{-14}$	388.79		
	$4.021 \times 10^{-17}$	416.08		
5	$4.948 \times 10^{-06}$	419.59	$3.078 \times 10^{-12}$	421.4
	$3.503 \times 10^{-10}$	446.24	$3.042 \times 10^{-16}$	448.6
	$1.236 \times 10^{-14}$	473.20		
	$3.924 \times 10^{-17}$	500.85		
6	$4.832 \times 10^{-06}$	504.65	$1.179 \times 10^{-13}$	479.9
	$3.340 \times 10^{-10}$	531.28	$1.291 \times 10^{-17}$	507.0
	$1.174 \times 10^{-14}$	558.17		
	$3.829 \times 10^{-17}$	585.27		

# Swelling of a tendon immersed in a bath

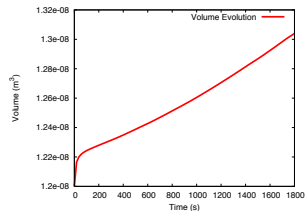
First order rate law:

$$\Pi^f = -k^f(\rho^f - \rho_{ini}^f),$$

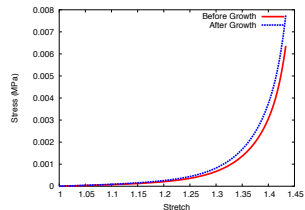
$$\Pi^c = -\Pi^f$$

Collagen concentration evolution

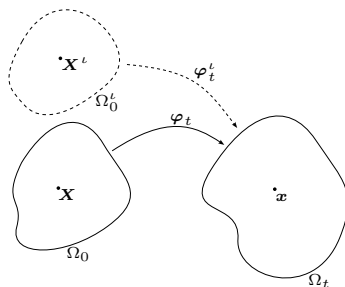
Volume evolution curve



Stress-extension curves



# The governing equations—Eulerian perspective



## Current quantities:

- $\rho^l$  – Species concentration
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- The notion of a deformation gradient is unnatural for the fluid

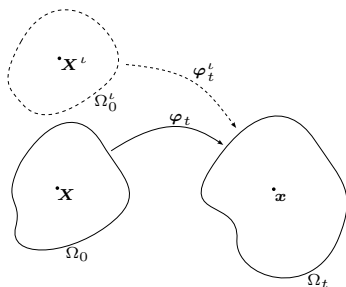
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## Returning to the dissipation inequality

Upon combining the balance of energy and the entropy inequality at uniform, constant temperature:

$$\sum_{\iota} \left( \rho^{\iota} \dot{\psi}^{\iota} - \boldsymbol{\sigma}^{\iota} : \text{grad}(\mathbf{v}^{\iota}) + \rho^{\iota} \text{grad}(\psi^{\iota}) \cdot \mathbf{v}^{\iota} \right) + \sum_{\iota} \left( \rho^{\iota} \mathbf{q}^{\iota} \cdot \mathbf{v}^{\iota} + \pi^{\iota} \left( \psi^{\iota} + \frac{1}{2} \|\mathbf{v}^{\iota}\|^2 \right) \right) \leq 0$$

- A viscoelastic solid; A Newtonian fluid
- Effects of the stress state on tissue growth
- Frictional interaction forces
- Energy-dependent mass source terms

# Energy-dependent mass source terms

$$\sum_{\iota} \pi^{\iota} \left( \psi^{\iota} + \frac{1}{2} \|\mathbf{v}^{\iota}\|^2 \right) \leq 0, \quad \pi^f = 0 \Rightarrow$$

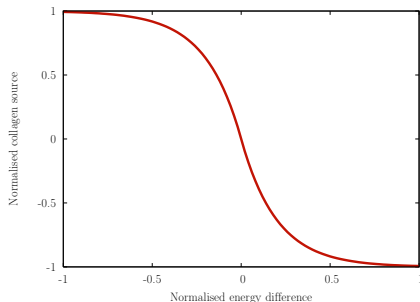
For e.g.,  $\pi^c = -\kappa^c A$ , or

$$\pi^c = \epsilon \kappa^c (\exp[-\epsilon U A] - 1)$$

where

$$A = \left( \psi^c + \frac{1}{2} \|\mathbf{v}^c\|^2 - \psi^s - \frac{1}{2} \|\mathbf{v}^s\|^2 \right),$$

$$\epsilon = \text{sign}(A), \quad U > 0 \text{ and } \kappa^c \geq 0$$



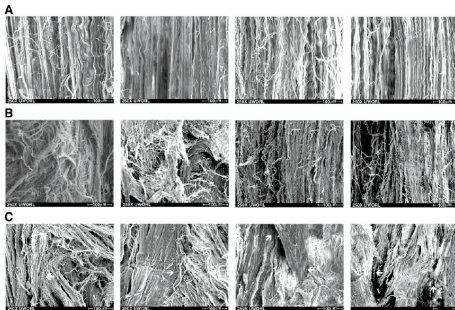
A thermodynamically-motivated collagen source

The thermodynamics indicates that the collagen source should be positive when the solute is more energetic

# Effects of the stress state on tissue growth

$$-\mathbf{F}^{eT} \mathbf{P}^c : \dot{\mathbf{F}}^g \leq 0 \Rightarrow \quad \dot{\mathbf{F}}^g = \lambda \mathbf{F}^{eT} \mathbf{P}^c, \quad \lambda \geq 0$$

i.e., Incremental changes in the growth deformation gradient align with the partial first Piola-Kirchhoff stress



Hindlimb unloading alters ligament healing (Provenzano et al. [2003])



## Solving the balance laws in practice—Reprise

- Impose the “detailed” balance of momentum instead
- Close the equations by specifying constitutive relationships for stress and momentum transfer terms arising from dissipation inequality:  $\rho^c \mathbf{q}^c = -\rho^f \mathbf{q}^f = -\mathbf{D}^{fc} (\mathbf{v}^c - \mathbf{v}^f)$

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- Solve fluid equations in the current configuration  $\Rightarrow$  No notion of any deformation gradient besides  $\mathbf{F}$
- Assume intrinsic incompressibility and impose tissue saturation:  
$$\frac{(\rho_0^c/J)}{\tilde{\rho}^c} + \frac{\rho^f}{\tilde{\rho}^f} = 1$$

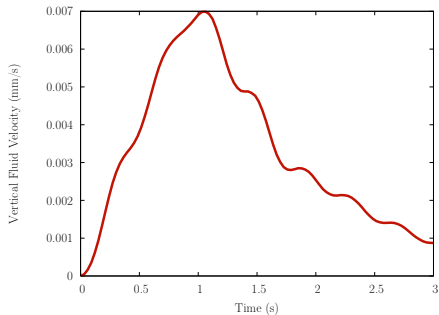
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$$\frac{(\rho_0^c/J)}{\bar{\rho}^c} + \frac{\rho^f}{\bar{\rho}^f} = 1$$
- Strain energy function for the elastic portion of the response of the solid collagen is the model of Mooney and Rivlin:
$$\hat{\psi}^c(\mathbf{C}^e) = \sum_{i,j=0}^n C_{ij} (I_1 - 3)^i (I_2 - 3)^j$$
- Fluid is ideal; Pressure serves as a Lagrange multiplier to impose the saturation constraint

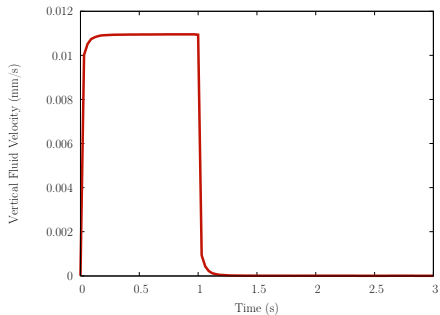
The swelling balloon

The constricted tissue

# Contrasting the dynamic and quasistatic solution

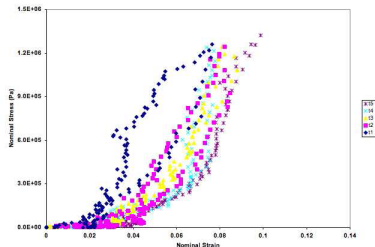


Dynamic evolution of the vertical fluid velocity



Quasistatic evolution of the vertical fluid velocity

# Tests using parameters for realistic soft tissue

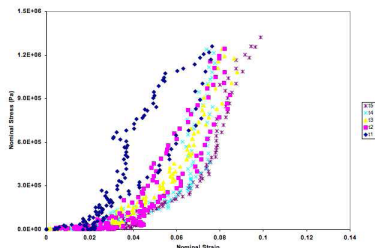


Mechanical response of a ligament (Ma et al.)

Parameter	Value (GPa)
$C_{10}$	0
$C_{01}$	0
$C_{20}$	0.54434
$C_{11}$	0
$C_{02}$	0.54714
$C_{30}$	1.83688
$C_{21}$	1.19985
$C_{12}$	10.6863
$C_{03}$	38.3875

- Friction coefficient tensor fit to Swartz et al. [1999]  
 $D^{fc} = D \mathbf{1} = 1.037 \mathbf{1} \text{ MPa.s.mm}^{-2}$
- Solid collagen comprises 30% of the total mass of the mixture

# Tests using parameters for realistic soft tissue



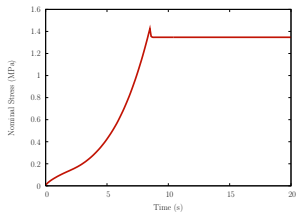
Mechanical response of a ligament (Ma et al.)

Parameter	Value (GPa)
$C_{10}$	0
$C_{01}$	0
$C_{20}$	0.54434
$C_{11}$	0
$C_{02}$	0.54714
$C_{30}$	1.83688
$C_{21}$	1.19985
$C_{12}$	10.6863
$C_{03}$	38.3875

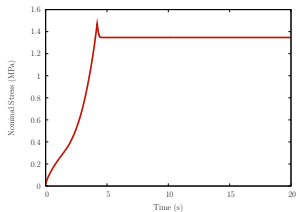
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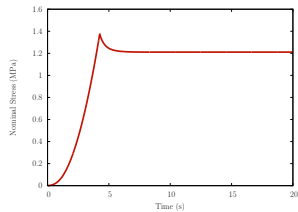
# Stress relaxation



Poroelastic model,  $\dot{\epsilon} = 0.01$  Hz,  $D = 1.037$  MPa.s.mm<sup>-2</sup>

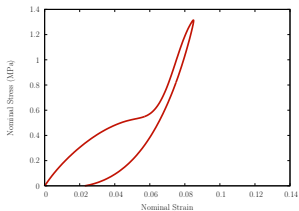


Poroelastic model,  $\dot{\epsilon} = 0.02$  Hz,  $D = 1.037$  MPa.s.mm<sup>-2</sup>

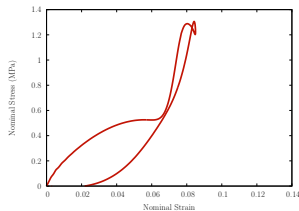


Viscoelastic model,  $\dot{\epsilon} = 0.02$  Hz,  $\tau = 0.3$  s

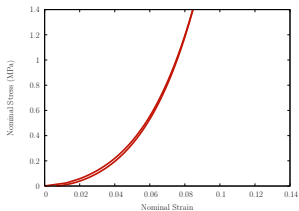
# Hysteresis in the cyclic stress-strain response



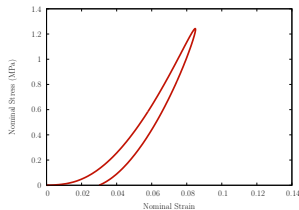
Poroelastic model,  $\bar{\epsilon} = 0.01 \text{ Hz}$ ,  $D = 1.037 \text{ MPa.s.mm}^{-2}$



Poroelastic model,  $\bar{\epsilon} = 0.01 \text{ Hz}$ ,  $D = 10.37 \text{ MPa.s.mm}^{-2}$



Poroelastic model,  $\bar{\epsilon} = 0.001 \text{ Hz}$ ,  $D = 1.037 \text{ MPa.s.mm}^{-2}$



Viscoelastic model,  $\dot{\epsilon} = 0.01 \text{ Hz}$ ,  $\tau = 0.3 \text{ s}$

# The physics of growing tumours

- Compressive solid stress along a given direction restricts the in vitro growth of tumours along that direction (Helmlinger et al. [1997])
- Solid comprised of an extra-cellular matrix (ECM) and tumour cells capable of moving with respect to this matrix
- Balance of mass with a uniform source
- Isotropic (plane strain) swelling associated with this growth:

$$\mathbf{F}^{g^c} = \begin{pmatrix} \left(\frac{\rho_0^c}{\rho_{0_{ini}}^c}\right)^{1/2} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \left(\frac{\rho_0^c}{\rho_{0_{ini}}^c}\right)^{1/2} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

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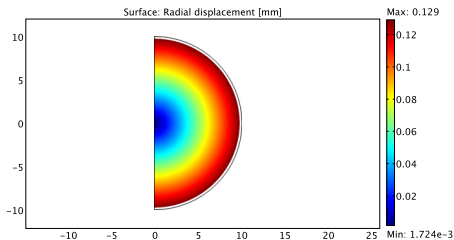
Kinematic swelling along with growth

## A constraining wall and soft contact mechanics

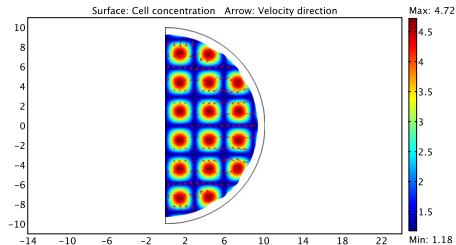
# The mechanics of the cells

Total solid stress:

$$\boldsymbol{\sigma}^c = \underbrace{\frac{1}{J} \frac{\rho_0^c}{\tilde{\rho}_0^c} \frac{\partial \hat{\psi}^c}{\partial \mathbf{F}} \mathbf{F}^T}_{\text{Passive}} + \underbrace{\tau \rho^c \rho^{\text{cell}} (N - \rho^{\text{cell}})}_{\text{Active}} \mathbf{1}$$



Homogeneous inward pull



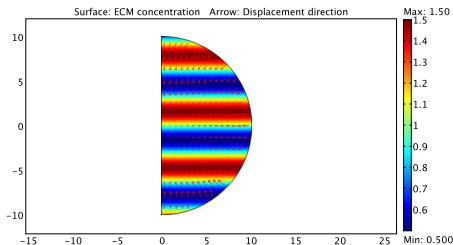
Heterogeneous inward pull

Modelling choices based on Namy et al. [2004]

# Transport of the cells

Mass flux of the cells:

$$\rho^{\text{cell}} \mathbf{v}^{\text{cell}} = \underbrace{h \rho^{\text{cell}} \text{grad}(\rho^{\text{c}})}_{\text{Haptotactic flux}} - \underbrace{D^{\text{cell}} \text{grad}(\rho^{\text{cell}})}_{\text{Cell diffusion}}$$



Non-uniform matrix concentration



# Diffusion and proliferation of the cells

Proliferating cells undergoing haptotaxis

## Coupling the phenomena

A growing tumour constrained by a wall

## Concluding remarks

The computational framework furnishes a powerful tool that can be tailored to answer specific questions pertinent to:

- Viscoelastic aspects of the mechanical response of growing tendons under different loading conditions
- Quantitative investigations of the efficacy of drugs based on how they are administered
- Understanding the cellular processes associated with tumour growth
- Mechanics of inflating automobile tyres!
- Ongoing work includes:
  - Extending the computational formulation to a viscoelastic solid and a viscous fluid
  - Introducing nonlinear viscoelasticity
  - Exploring the experimental literature to directly correlate some of the thermodynamic findings

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# Acknowledgements

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