## MATHEMATICAL MODELING **EMPLOYED FOR BIOMATERIALS DESIGN**

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### ΜοτινατιοΝ

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#### FUNDAMENTAL INTRICACY OF BIOMATERIALS DESIGN:

- must be stiff enough to provide the required load carrying-capacity
- must blend in physiological environment
- and facilitate biological processes, granted by
  - sufficient porosity, allowing for distribution of biological factors
  - sufficient "softness", allowing for adequate mechanical stimulation of biological processes

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#### ULTIMATE GOAL OF RELATED RESEARCH AT IMWS:

- development of mathematical models allowing for prediction of the mechanical properties of biological tissues and biomaterials
- taking into account the materials' composition and the available microstructural information
- utilizable for both material design and assessment



Weiner and Wagner (1998), Annual Reviews of Materials Science 28: 271-298; Lees et al. (1979), The Journal of the Acoustical Society of America 66: 641; Ding and Hvid (2000), Bone 26: 291-295; Prostak and Lees (1996), Calcified Tissue International 59: 474-479



Adequate computation of the mechanical properties on the macroscopic scale requires thorough, reasonable, and efficient integration of relevant information available on lower observation scales

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Large-scale numerical simulations require enormous CPU time, and yet lack lower scaleinformation

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- Large-scale numerical simulations require enormous CPU time, and yet lack lower scaleinformation
- Efficient and physically coherent alternative method: continuum micromechanicsbased homogenization methods

### **MICROMECHANICAL REPRESENTATION OF BONE**



see e.g. Hellmich and Ulm (2002), Journal of Engineering Mechanics (ASCE) 128: 898-908; Fritsch and Hellmich (2007), Journal of Theoretical Biology 244: 597-620; Vuong and Hellmich (2011), Journal of Theoretical Biology 287: 115-130; Morin and Hellmich (2015), Ultrasonics 54: 1251-1269; Scheiner et al., Biomechanics and Modeling in Mechanobiology, available online

#### **Required input:** stiffness of "basic building blocks"

stiffnesses of hydroxyapatite, water, and collagen are provided by experimental studies (in terms of bulk and shear moduli, and stiffness tensor components)

Katz and Ukraincik (1971), Journal of Biomechanics 4: 221-227; Cusack and Miller (1979), Journal of Molecular Biology 135: 39-51

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**Five-step homogenization scheme** for "scaling" the stiffness tensors from the collagen level up to the extravascular level:

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**Five-step homogenization scheme** for "scaling" the stiffness tensors from the collagen level up to the extravascular level:

$$\mathbb{C}_{wetcol}^{MT} = \{(1 - \mathring{f}_{im})\mathbb{C}_{col} + \mathring{f}_{im}\mathbb{C}_{im} \colon [\mathbb{I} + \mathbb{P}_{cyl}^{col} \colon (\mathbb{C}_{im} - \mathbb{C}_{col})]^{-1}\}$$
$$: \{(1 - \mathring{f}_{im})\mathbb{I} + \mathring{f}_{im}[\mathbb{I} + \mathbb{P}_{cyl}^{col} \colon (\mathbb{C}_{im} - \mathbb{C}_{col})]^{-1}\}^{-1}$$

$$\mathbb{C}_{ef}^{SCSII} = \left\{ \sum_{r} \check{f}_{r} \,\mathbb{c}_{r} \colon [\mathbb{I} + \mathbb{P}_{sph}^{ef} \colon (\mathbb{c}_{r} - \mathbb{C}_{ef}^{SCSII})]^{-1} \right\}$$
$$: \left\{ \sum_{s} \check{f}_{s} [\mathbb{I} + \mathbb{P}_{sph}^{ef} \colon (\mathbb{c}_{s} - \mathbb{C}_{ef}^{SCSII})]^{-1} \right\}^{-1}$$

$$\begin{split} \mathbb{C}_{fib}^{SCS} &= \{\check{f}_{wetcol} \mathbb{C}_{wetcol}^{MT} : [\mathbb{I} + \mathbb{P}_{cyl}^{fib} : (\mathbb{C}_{wetcol}^{MT} - \mathbb{C}_{fib}^{SCS})]^{-1} \\ &+ \check{f}_{HA} \mathbb{C}_{HA} : [\mathbb{I} + \mathbb{P}_{sph}^{fib} : (\mathbb{C}_{HA} - \mathbb{C}_{fib}^{SCS})]^{-1} \} \\ &: \{\check{f}_{wetcol} [\mathbb{I} + \mathbb{P}_{cyl}^{fib} : (\mathbb{C}_{wetcol}^{MT} - \mathbb{C}_{fib}^{SCS})]^{-1} \\ &+ \check{f}_{HA} [\mathbb{I} + \mathbb{P}_{sph}^{fib} : (\mathbb{C}_{HA} - \mathbb{C}_{fib}^{SCS})]^{-1} \} \end{split}$$

$$\begin{split} \mathbb{C}_{ultra}^{MTII} &= \{(1 - \bar{f}_{fib})\mathbb{C}_{ef}^{SCSII} + \bar{f}_{fib}\mathbb{C}_{fib}^{SCS} : [\mathbb{I} + \mathbb{P}_{cyl}^{ef} \\ &: (\mathbb{C}_{fib}^{SCS} - \mathbb{C}_{ef}^{SCSII})]^{-1} \} : \{(1 - \bar{f}_{fib})\mathbb{I} + \bar{f}_{fib}[\mathbb{I} + \mathbb{P}_{cyl}^{ef} \\ &: (\mathbb{C}_{fib}^{SCS} - \mathbb{C}_{ef}^{SCSII})]^{-1} \}^{-1} \end{split}$$

$$\mathbb{C}_{exvas}^{MTIII} = \{ \tilde{f}_{ultra} \mathbb{C}_{ultra}^{MTII} + \tilde{f}_{lac} \mathbb{C}_{lac} \colon [\mathbb{I} + \mathbb{P}_{sph}^{ultra} \colon (\mathbb{C}_{lac} - \mathbb{C}_{ultra}^{MTII})]^{-1} \}$$
$$: \{ \tilde{f}_{ultra} \mathbb{I} + \tilde{f}_{lac} [\mathbb{I} + \mathbb{P}_{sph}^{ultra} \colon (\mathbb{C}_{lac} - \mathbb{C}_{ultra}^{MTII})]^{-1} \}^{-1}$$

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Five-step homogenization scheme for "scaling" the stiffness tensors from the collagen level up to the extravascular level:

- based on...
  aforementioned component-specific stiffnesses

  - volume fractions of the components quantifying the composition of the
  - phase shapes and morphologies (taken into account through Hill tensors) +  $\mathbb{P}_{sm}^{(b)}$  :  $(\mathbb{C}_{HA} - \mathbb{C}_{fb}^{SCS})^{-1}$

**Model validation** based on comparison with **independent** experimental data:

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#### **PREDICTION OF FURTHER BONE PROPERTIES**

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#### **Bone strength:**

through definition of failure criteria for collagen and hydroxyapatite



Fritsch et al. (2009), Journal of Theoretical Biology 260:230-252

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Fritsch et al. (2009), Journal of Theoretical Biology 260:230-252

#### **Bone viscoelasticity:**

through definition of viscoelastic behavior of hydroxyapatite



Eberhardsteiner et al. (2014), Computer Methods in Biomechanics and Biomedical Engineering 17: 48-63

#### **Elastic deformations of human mandible:**



#### **Starting point:**

CT image = spatial distribution of voxelspecific grey levels (proportional to attenuation behavior)

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Development of method for **conversion of grey levels** into corresponding **voxel composition** (i.e. volume fractions of pore space and bone matrix)

Ink between CT data and micromechanical models

#### **Elastic deformations of human mandible:**



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CT image = spatial distribution of voxelspecific grey levels (proportional to attenuation behavior) Development of method for conversion of grey levels into corresponding voxel composition (i.e. volume fractions of pore space and bone matrix)

## link between CT data and micromechanical models

Structural simulations reveal that prescribing more realistic bone stiffness leads to **substantially changed strain and stress distributions** 





- bone composition considered based on CT data-to-volume fractions conversion technique
- micromechanics provides then map of bone stiffness distribution
- the effects of various (physiological) load cases can be easily studied















good agreement between model predictions and experimental data



- good agreement between model predictions and experimental data
- the CT data-to-composition conversion method is applicable



- good agreement between model predictions and experimental data
- ➡ the CT data-to-composition conversion method is applicable



Scheiner et al. (2009), Biomaterials 30: 2411-2419

#### **CONSIDERATION OF BONE REGENERATION**

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QI: But what drives the **development of these volume fractions** in physiological conditions?

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Q2: Is it possible to relate the mechanical properties of bone/biomaterials to the underlying biological and mechanical boundary conditions?

A: Yes! By means of adequate **SYSTEMS BIOLOGY MODELS** 

### **BONE REMODELING: PROBLEM DEFINITION**



<sup>a,f</sup> Sinclair et al. (2013), Equine Sports Medicine and Surgery, pages 145-165, Saunders Ltd., second edition; <sup>b</sup> Melbourne Femur Collection, by courtesy of John G. Clement and David Thomas; <sup>c</sup> Buckwalter and Cooper (1987), Instructional Course Lectures 36, pages 27-48, American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons; <sup>d</sup> Kessel and Kardon (1979), A Text-Atlas of Scanning Electron Microscopy, W.H. Freeman & Co.; <sup>e</sup> Padilla et al. (2008), Bone 42: 1193-1202; <sup>g</sup> Pajevic (2009), IBMS BoneKey 6: 63-70; <sup>h</sup> Ebacher et al. (2012), Acta Biomaterialia 8: 1093-1100

#### **BONE REMODELING: PROBLEM DEFINITION**



#### photomicrograph of single trabecula lacunae-canaliculi system

#### **BONE REMODELING:**

Interaction of osteoblasts, osteoclasts, and osteocytes, driven by biological factors and the mechanical loading

CT-based reconstruction of trabecular bone

### **BONE REMODELING: PROBLEM DEFINITION**



#### **BONE REMODELING:**

Interaction of osteoblasts, osteoclasts, and osteocytes, driven by biological factors and the mechanical loading

#### **SPECIFIC AIMS:**

- Development of a multiscale systems biology model;
- Taking into account the major biochemical regulatory mechanisms; and
- Fed by a multiscale poromicromechanics model, providing an adequate mechanoregulatory stimulus; for
- Simulation of bone remodeling-related bone composition changes due to mechanical and pathological driving forces

### **BONE REMODELING SIMULATION: STRATEGY**

#### **"BONE CELL POPULATION MODEL":**



- Considers osteoblasts and osteoclasts in terms of cell concentrations;
- Takes into account specific developmental stages of these cells;
- Cell development through differentiation, proliferation, and apoptosis processes;
- Biochemical factors (RANK-RANKL-OPG, PTH, TGF-β) influence the cell development in terms of activation and repression.

#### **OSTEOBLAST PROLIFERATION:**



#### **RANKL PRODUCTION:**

#### Straining of bone matrix leads to increased NO-concentration, which is indicative for restricted RANKL-production

Pitsillides et al. (1995), FASEB J 9: 1614-1622; Xiong et al. (2011), Nat Mater 17: 1235-1241; Henriksen et al. (2003), J Biol Chem 278: 48745-48753, Wang et al. (2004), Endocrinology 145: 2148-2156



#### **OSTEOBLAST PROLIFERATION:**



proliferation increase by up to 100%

Jones et al. (1991), Biomaterials 12: 101-110

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#### **OSTEOBLAST PROLIFERATION:**



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#### **RANKL PRODUCTION:**



## Mechanical stimulus:• SED experienced by the extravascular bone matrix• estimated by means of continuum poromicromechanics

Scheiner et al. (2013), Computer Methods in Applied Mechanics and Engineering 254: 181-196; Scheiner et al., Biomechanics and Modeling in Mechanobiology, available online; Pastrama et al., manuscript in preparation

#### **OSTEOBLAST PROLIFERATION:**



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#### **RANKL PRODUCTION:**



## Mechanical stimulus:• hydrostatic pressures experienced by bone cells• estimated by means of continuum poromicromechanics

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### **BONE REMODELING SIMULATION: SUMMARY**



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#### **RELATION TO BONE COMPOSITION:**



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### **BONE REMODELING SIMULATION: SUMMARY**



#### **RELATION TO BONE COMPOSITION:**



FEEDBACK-TYPE INTERPLAY BETWEEN BONE BIOLOGY AND BONE MECHANICS!

Scheiner et al. (2013), Computer Methods in Applied Mechanics and Engineering 254: 181-196; Scheiner et al., Biomechanics and Modeling in Mechanobiology, available online; Pastrama et al., manuscript in preparation

### SIMULATION OF MECHANICAL DISUSE



✓ Resulting bone loss rate (0.61%/month) agrees well with clinical data Vico et al. (1992), Journal of Bone and Mineral Research 7: 445-447; Vico et al. (2000), Lancet 355: 1607-1611

✓ According to clinical studies, bone loss varies between different species, calling for species-specific model calibration

### SIMULATION OF MECHANICAL OVERUSE



✓ Bone gain depends on magnitude of overuse: higher magnitudes lead to faster and more significant bone gain

✓ The multiscale systems biology approach implies that bone gain is limited

### **SIMULATION OF OSTEOPOROSIS**

#### Prescription of disease-related, temporary increase of RANKL and osteocyte apoptosis

Manolagas (2000), *Endocr Rev* 21: 115-137; Hofbauer and Schoppet (2004), *J Am Med Assoc* 292: 490-495; Tomkinson et al. (1998), *J Bone Miner Res* 13: 1243-1250



✓ onset of PMO leads to a catabolic bone remodeling regime

- ✓ adequate bone turnover kinetics
- ✓ the **related porosity increase** agrees well with clinical results
- drug intervention can be modeled through consideration of adequate pharmacokinetics models

Scheiner et al. (2014), International Journal of Numerical Methods in Biomedical Engineering 30: 1-27; Pastrama et al., manuscript in preparation

### **MODELING: SUMMARY**

- ✓ Adequate prediction of various mechanical properties of bone tissue and of specific biomaterials
- Structural simulations of bone organs, using micromechanicsderived material properties as input
- ✓ Conversion of CT data to voxel-specific constituent volume fractions
- ✓ Estimation of bone remodeling-modulating mechanical stimuli through rigorous multiscale poromicromechanical modeling
- ✓ Adequate simulation of bone remodeling (on the material level) mechanical and biological load cases

### EXPERIMENTS@IMWS

#### microCT imaging



#### Uniaxial loadingunloading tests



#### ultrasonics testing



#### micropillar tests



...plus classical macroscopic mechanical testing, nano- and pico-indentation, atomic force microscopy, scanning probe microscopy

Luczynski et al. (2012), CMES-Computer Modeling in Engineering & Sciences 87: 505-528; Luczynski et al. (2013), Journal of Biomedical Materials Research Part A 101A: 138-144; Hum et al. (2013), Strain 49: 431-439, Luczynski et al. (2015), Journal of the Mechanical Behavior of Biomedical Materials, available online

# THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION!

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MULTISCALE POROMICROMECHANICS OF BONE MATERIALS, WITH LINKS TO BIOLOGY AND MEDICINE



SASKATCHEWAN-CHIR PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM



MULTI-SCALE MODELING OF TRANSPORT THROUGH DEFORMABLE POROUS MATERIALS



**RUSSIAN SCIENCE FOUNDATION** 



Functional prognosis simulation of patient-specific spinal treatment for clinical use



SIMULATION TOOL FOR BONE AND BONE BIOMATERIALS, BASED ON ENHANCED CT-DATA EXPLOITATION