

Project 5. Fisher-Kolmogorov equation for neurodegenerative diseases

$$\begin{cases} \frac{\partial c}{\partial t} - \nabla \cdot (D \nabla c) - \alpha c(1 - c) = 0 & \text{in } \Omega , \\ D \nabla c \mathbf{n} = 0 & \text{on } \partial\Omega , \\ c(t = 0) = c_0 & \text{in } \Omega . \end{cases} \quad (7)$$

Consider the Fisher-Kolmogorov equation (7). The equation can be used to model the spread of misfolded proteins through the brain, associated to neurodegenerative diseases [13]. Implement a solver for the equation, with the aim of reproducing the results observed in the proposed literature.

For the domain Ω , consider idealized or realistic domains (or both) as in [13]. A sample realistic mesh can be downloaded at this link: https://polimi365-my.sharepoint.com/:u:/g/personal/10461512_polimi_it/EY9ZPoq279JARvbXLPR1pNcB-wjU5tPZLC1f0_409EYbtg?e=C1aIRH (the mesh is in STL format, and requires preprocessing through gmsh).

Discuss the results, the methods employed, their stability and accuracy, and their algorithmic and computational aspects.

Difficulty: moderate.

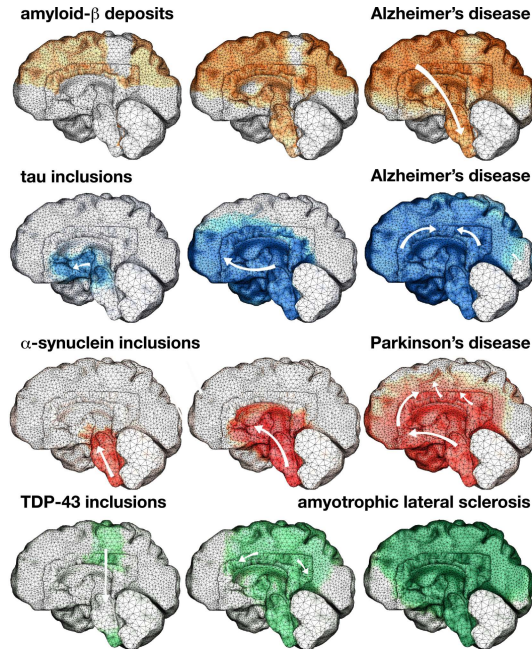


Figure 4: Example solutions to Fisher-Kolmogorov equation. Image taken from [13].