

Lab 5: Hands-on with PhysiCell (Day 1)

Get lectures and
materials here!



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SCHOOL OF INFORMATICS, COMPUTING, AND ENGINEERING

Macklin Lab
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Agenda (first half):

Part 1: Getting familiar with PhysiCell

- Download PhysiCell
- Work with Projects (pre-bundled)
- Build and run a first pre-bundled sample project
- Quick visualization with SVG files
- Create simple animated GIFs from simulation data
- Clean up data and reset to a blank slate

Part 2: Modifying projects in PhysiCell

- Explore project structure
- Define the microenvironment (XML)
- Define and access custom parameters (XML)
- Introduce key cell data
- Introduce cell definitions
- **Exercise 1:** Modify parameters and default cell definition in cancer-biorobots project

BREAK

Agenda (second half):

Part 3: Making new projects in PhysiCell

- Introduce general modeling workflow
- Work with cell definitions
- Introduce functions in PhysiCell
- Attach functions to Cell Definitions
- Add custom data to cells
- Setup routines
- Place new cells
- Coloring functions (for SVG)
- **Exercise 2:** Make a 3D project with basic metabolism and energy-dependent cycling and death

Part 4: Special topics

- Introduce tools ecosystem (and povwriter)
- Create mpeg4 movies

Part 1

Getting familiar with PhysiCell



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BREAK

Let's download PhysiCell

- Two download options to get the latest numbered release:

- **GitHub:**

- ♦ <https://github.com/MathCancer/PhysiCell/releases/latest>

- **SourceForge:**

- ♦ <https://sourceforge.net/projects/physicell/files/latest/download>

- Unzip the download, and enter the PhysiCell root directory

- Of particular note, go to ./documentation and open the **User_Guide.pdf**



Sample projects

- It's inefficient (and a little insane) to code new projects *entirely* from scratch.
- So, we provide sample projects:
 - 2D and 3D template projects
 - Cancer models
 - Synthetic multicellular systems
 - Viral dynamics in tissue
- **make [project-name]**: populate a sample project
 - Then use **make** to compile it
- **make data-cleanup**: clean up the output data
- **make reset**: return to a "clean slate" (depopulate the project)
- **make list-projects**: display all available sample projects

Documentation: User Guide Sections 6, 7.

PhysiCell Project Essentials (1)

- Each PhysiCell release includes sample projects. To list them:

- **make list-projects**

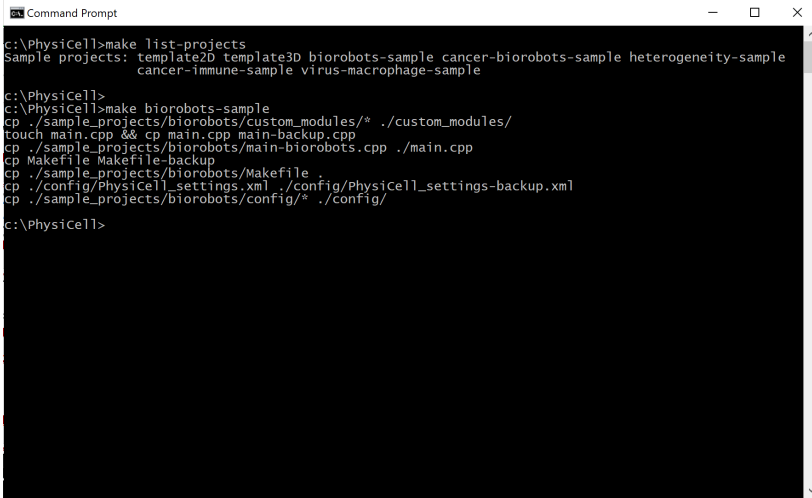
- Your first step is to **populate a project**.

- **make <project_name>**

- Let's use biorobots-sample:

- ♦ **make biorobots-sample**

- This copies source code, a tailored make file, and configuration files



```
c:\PhysiCell>make list-projects
Sample projects: template2D template3D biorobots-sample cancer-biorobots-sample heterogeneity-sample
cancer-immune-sample virus-macrophage-sample

c:\PhysiCell>
c:\PhysiCell>make biorobots-sample
cp ./sample_projects/biorobots/custom_modules/* ./custom_modules/
touch main.cpp && cp main.cpp main-backup.cpp
cp ./sample_projects/biorobots/main-biorobots.cpp ./main.cpp
cp Makefile Makefile-backup
cp ./sample_projects/biorobots/Makefile .
cp ./config/PhysiCell_settings.xml ./config/PhysiCell_settings-backup.xml
cp ./sample_projects/biorobots/config/* ./config/

c:\PhysiCell>
```

MathCancer.org

PhysiCell Project Essentials (3)

- Look at saved data

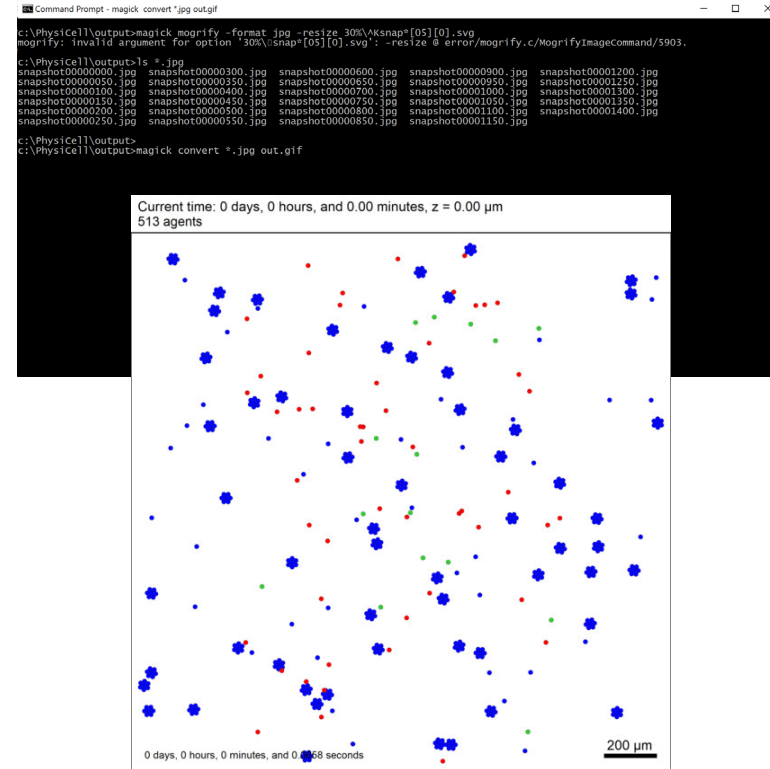
- Most projects save data to ./output
 - ♦ XML files give metadata, mesh, and substrate info
 - ♦ MAT file save (compressed) substrate and cell data
 - ♦ SVG files are visual quick snapshots
 - ♦ More on loading XML / MAT files in Python later

- Let's convert SVG to rescaled JPEG

- **magick mogrify -format jpg -resize 30% snap*.svg**
 - ♦ Convert snapshot00000000.svg, snapshot00000001.svg, ...
- **magick mogrify -format jpg -resize 30% snap*[05][0].svg**
 - ♦ Convert snapshot00000000.svg, snapshot00000050.svg, ...

- Now, let's create an animated GIF

- **magick convert *.jpg out.gif**



PhysiCell Project Essentials (4)

- **Data cleanup**

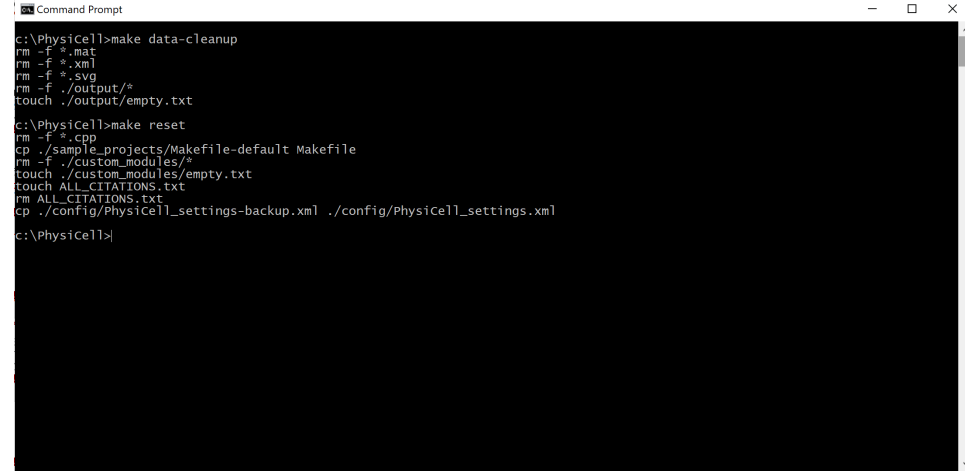
- Clean up data to get ready for another run

- **make data-cleanup**

- **Reset** to a clean slate

- De-populate the project
- Get ready for another project

- **make reset**



```
c:\PhysiCell>make data-cleanup
rm -f *.mat
rm -f *.xml
rm -f *.svg
rm -f ./output/*
touch ./output/empty.txt

c:\PhysiCell>make reset
rm -f *.cpp
cp ./sample_projects/Makefile-default Makefile
rm -f ./custom_modules/*
touch ./custom_modules/empty.txt
touch ALL_CITATIONS.txt
rm ALL_CITATIONS.txt
cp ./config/PhysiCell_settings-backup.xml ./config/PhysiCell_settings.xml

c:\PhysiCell>
```

Part 2

Modifying projects in PhysiCell



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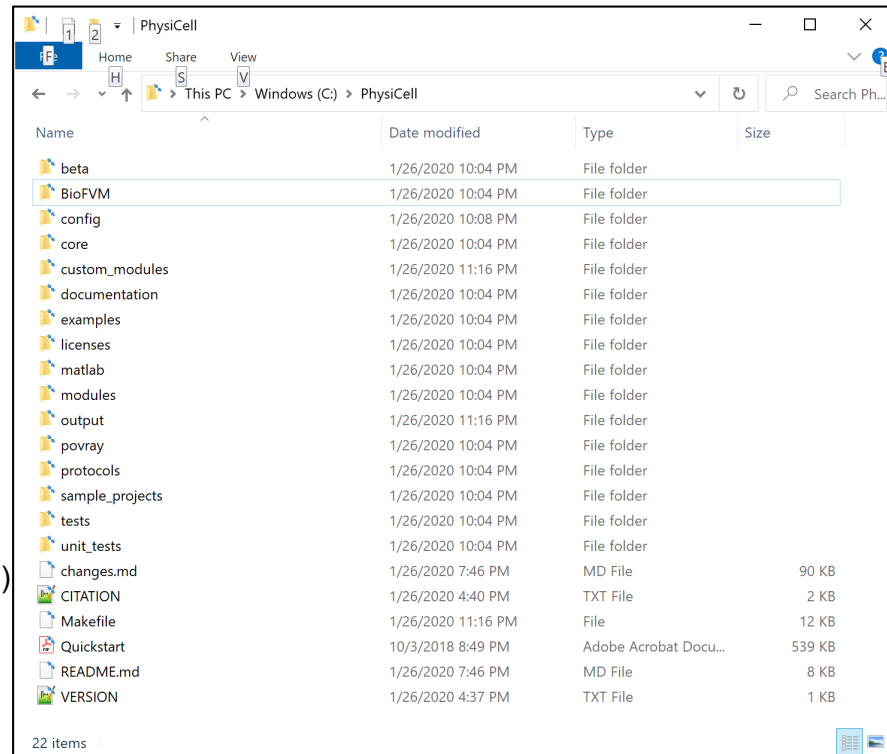
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BREAK

Project structure: overview

- (key) directories:
 - **./ (root):** main source, Makefile, and executable go here
 - **./beta:** for beta-testing (don't use)
 - **./BioFVM:** diffusion solver
 - **./config:** configuration files
 - **./core:** PhysiCell core functions
 - **./custom_modules:** put custom code for your project here.
 - **./documentation:** user guide, etc.
 - **./examples:** deprecated
 - **./licenses:** yep
 - **./matlab:** scripts and functions to load data in matlab
 - **./modules:** standard add-ons for PhysiCell
 - **./output:** where data are stored (by default, but can be changed)
 - **./povray:** deprecated
 - **./protocols:** instructions mostly for maintainers (e.g., release protocols)
 - **./sample_projects:** where we add sample projects
 - **./tests:** for automated testing (WIP)
 - **./unit_tests:** for automated testing (WIP)
- Most of your work will be in the red directories



Name	Date modified	Type	Size
beta	1/26/2020 10:04 PM	File folder	
BioFVM	1/26/2020 10:04 PM	File folder	
config	1/26/2020 10:08 PM	File folder	
core	1/26/2020 10:04 PM	File folder	
custom_modules	1/26/2020 11:16 PM	File folder	
documentation	1/26/2020 10:04 PM	File folder	
examples	1/26/2020 10:04 PM	File folder	
licenses	1/26/2020 10:04 PM	File folder	
matlab	1/26/2020 10:04 PM	File folder	
modules	1/26/2020 10:04 PM	File folder	
output	1/26/2020 11:16 PM	File folder	
povray	1/26/2020 10:04 PM	File folder	
protocols	1/26/2020 10:04 PM	File folder	
sample_projects	1/26/2020 10:04 PM	File folder	
tests	1/26/2020 10:04 PM	File folder	
unit_tests	1/26/2020 10:04 PM	File folder	
changes.md	1/26/2020 7:46 PM	MD File	90 KB
CITATION	1/26/2020 4:40 PM	TXT File	2 KB
Makefile	1/26/2020 11:16 PM	File	12 KB
Quickstart	10/3/2018 8:49 PM	Adobe Acrobat Docu...	539 KB
README.md	1/26/2020 7:46 PM	MD File	8 KB
VERSION	1/26/2020 4:37 PM	TXT File	1 KB

Project structure: config files

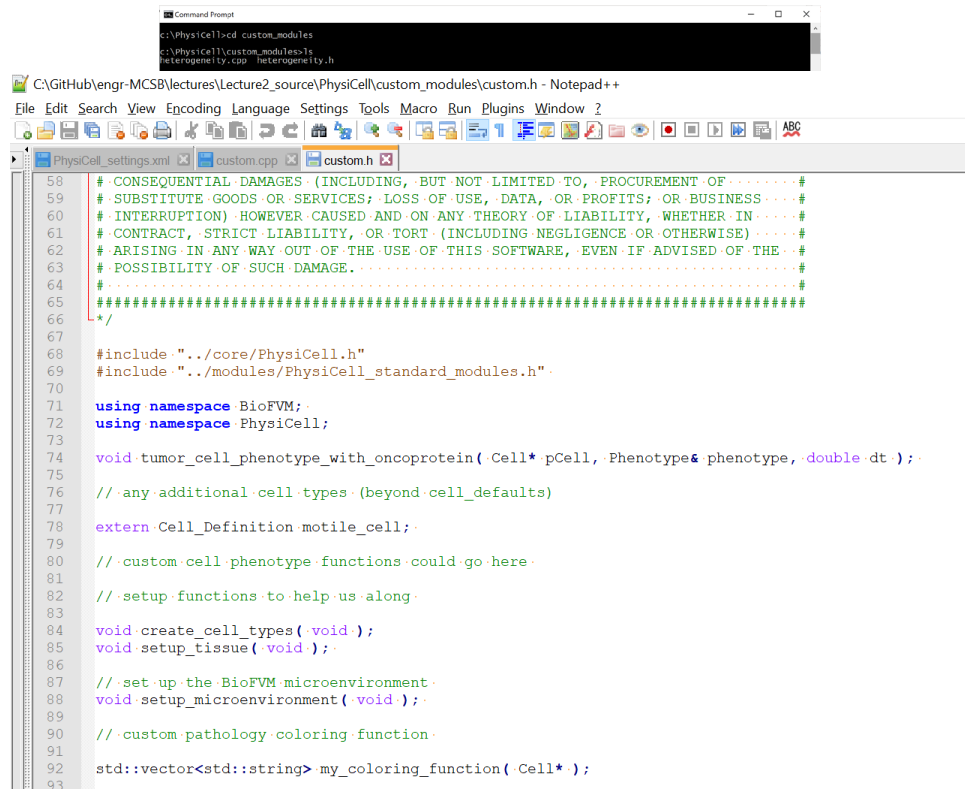
- Configuration files (XML)
 - **domain:** domain size and resolution
 - ♦ Final simulation time
 - ♦ Time step sizes
 - **overall:** general options
 - ♦ Number of threads
 - **parallel:** parallelization options
 - ♦ Save where?
 - ♦ Save SVGs? (how often?)
 - ♦ Save full data? (how often?)
 - ♦ Save legacy data (don't)
 - **microenvironment_setup:** diffusion settings
 - ♦ more later
 - **user_parameters:** simulation-specific settings
 - ♦ more later



```
Physicell_settings.xml
75 <Physicell_settings version="devel-version">
76   <domain>
77     <x_min>-750</x_min>
78     <x_max>750</x_max>
79     <y_min>-750</y_min>
80     <y_max>750</y_max>
81     <z_min>-750</z_min>
82     <z_max>750</z_max>
83     <dx>20</dx>
84     <dy>20</dy>
85     <dz>20</dz>
86     <use_2D>false</use_2D>
87   </domain>
88
89   <overall>
90     <max_time units="min">30240</max_time> <!-- 21.days * 24.h * 60.min -->
91     <time_units>min</time_units>
92     <space_units>micron</space_units>
93     <dt_diffusion units="min">0.01</dt_diffusion>
94     <dt_mechanics units="min">0.1</dt_mechanics>
95     <dt_phenotype units="min">6</dt_phenotype>
96   </overall>
97
98   <parallel>
99     <omp_num_threads>8</omp_num_threads>
100   </parallel>
101
102   <save>
103     <folder>output</folder> <!-- use . for root -->
104
105     <full_data>
106       <interval units="min">360</interval>
107       <enable>true</enable>
108     </full_data>
109
110     <SVG>
111       <interval units="min">60</interval>
112       <enable>true</enable>
113     </SVG>
114
115     <legacy_data>
116       <enable>false</enable>
117     </legacy_data>
118   </save>
119
120   <microenvironment_setup>
121   </microenvironment_setup>
122
123   <user_parameters>
```


Project structure: custom modules

- Custom Modules
 - Setup functions
 - Cell definitions
 - Custom functions
 - any other modeling
 - Custom coloring functions



The screenshot shows a code editor window titled "C:\GitHub\enr-MCSB\lectures\Lecture2_source\PhysiCell\custom_modules\custom.h - Notepad++". The code is a C++ header file for a custom module. It includes a copyright notice at the top, followed by include directives for "core/PhysiCell.h" and "modules/PhysiCell_standard_modules.h". It then uses the "BioFVM" and "PhysiCell" namespaces. The code defines a function "tumor_cell_phenotype_with_oncoprotein" and includes comments for additional cell types, custom cell phenotype functions, setup functions, and a custom pathology coloring function. The file ends with a "std::vector" declaration for a coloring function.

```
58  /* CONSEQUENTIAL DAMAGES (INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, PROCUREMENT OF .....#
59  /* SUBSTITUTE GOODS OR SERVICES; LOSS OF USE, DATA, OR PROFITS; OR BUSINESS .....#
60  /* INTERRUPTION) HOWEVER CAUSED AND ON ANY THEORY OF LIABILITY, WHETHER IN .....#
61  /* CONTRACT, STRICT LIABILITY, OR TORT (INCLUDING NEGLIGENCE OR OTHERWISE) .....#
62  /* ARISING IN ANY WAY OUT OF THE USE OF THIS SOFTWARE, EVEN IF ADVISED OF THE .....#
63  /* POSSIBILITY OF SUCH DAMAGE. ....#
64  /* .....#
65  /* .....#
66  */
67
68  #include "../core/PhysiCell.h"
69  #include "../modules/PhysiCell_standard_modules.h"
70
71  using namespace BioFVM;
72  using namespace PhysiCell;
73
74  void tumor_cell_phenotype_with_oncoprotein( Cell* pCell, Phenotype& phenotype, double dt );
75
76  // any additional cell types (beyond cell_defaults)
77
78  extern Cell_Definition motile_cell;
79
80  // custom cell phenotype functions could go here
81
82  // setup functions to help us along
83
84  void create_cell_types( void );
85  void setup_tissue( void );
86
87  // set up the BioFVM microenvironment
88  void setup_microenvironment( void );
89
90  // custom pathology coloring function
91
92  std::vector<std::string> my_coloring_function( Cell* );
93
```

Project structure: custom modules

- Custom Modules

- Any user-defined globals (at top)

- ◆ Declared cell types

- Setup functions

- ◆ `create_cell_types()`

- » Do all setup on all cell types
 - Adjust phenotype
 - Add / adjust custom data
 - Set functions

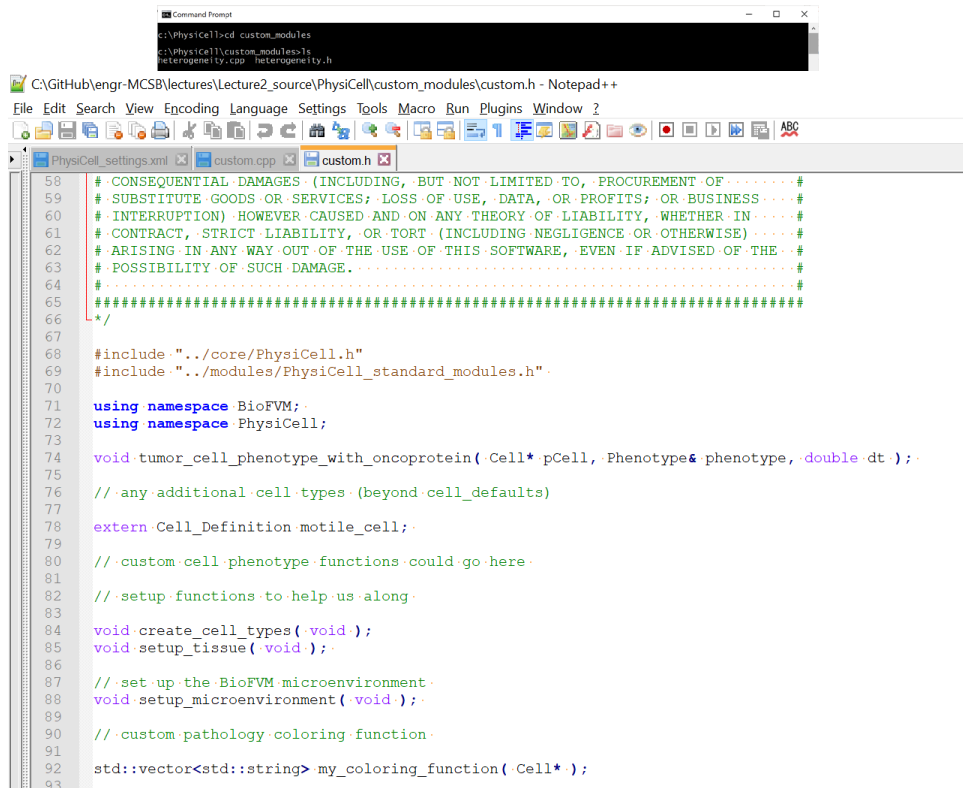
- ◆ `setup_tissue()`

- » Place initial cells in microenvironment
- » Modify each cell as needed

- Custom functions

- any other modeling

- Custom coloring functions



```
Command Prompt
c:\PhysiCell>cd custom_modules
c:\PhysiCell\custom_modules>
heterogeneity.cpp heterogeneity.h

C:\GitHub\engr-MCSB\lectures\Lecture2_source\PhysiCell\custom_modules\custom.h - Notepad++
File Edit Search View Encoding Language Settings Tools Macro Run Plugins Window ?
PhysiCell_settings.xml custom.cpp custom.h
58  /* CONSEQUENTIAL DAMAGES (INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, PROCUREMENT OF .....#
59  /* SUBSTITUTE GOODS OR SERVICES; LOSS OF USE, DATA, OR PROFITS; OR BUSINESS .....#
60  /* INTERRUPTION) HOWEVER CAUSED AND ON ANY THEORY OF LIABILITY, WHETHER IN .....#
61  /* CONTRACT, STRICT LIABILITY, OR TORT (INCLUDING NEGLIGENCE OR OTHERWISE) .....#
62  /* ARISING IN ANY WAY OUT OF THE USE OF THIS SOFTWARE, EVEN IF ADVISED OF THE .....#
63  /* POSSIBILITY OF SUCH DAMAGE. ....#
64  /* .....#
65  /* .....#
66  */
67
68  #include "../core/PhysiCell.h"
69  #include "../modules/PhysiCell_standard_modules.h"
70
71  using namespace BioFVM;
72  using namespace PhysiCell;
73
74  void tumor_cell_phenotype_with_oncoprotein( Cell* pCell, Phenotype& phenotype, double dt );
75
76  // any additional cell types (beyond cell_defaults)
77
78  extern Cell_Definition motile_cell;
79
80  // custom cell phenotype functions could go here
81
82  // setup functions to help us along
83
84  void create_cell_types( void );
85  void setup_tissue( void );
86
87  // set up the BioFVM microenvironment
88  void setup_microenvironment( void );
89
90  // custom pathology coloring function
91
92  std::vector<std::string> my_coloring_function( Cell* );
93
```

Project structure: main.cpp

- **main.cpp**

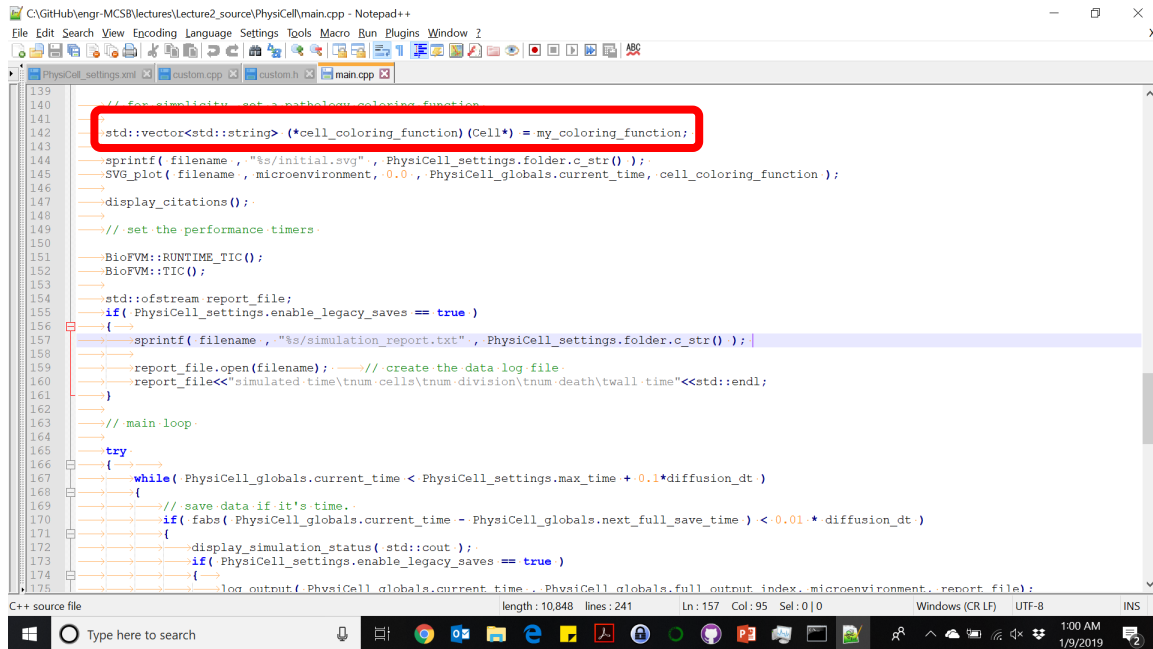
- (in the root directory)
- calls the setup functions

```
104
105 --setup_microenvironment(); // modify this in the custom code
106
107 /* PhysiCell setup */
108
109
110 // set mechanics voxel size, and match the data structure to BioFVM
111 double mechanics_voxel_size = 30;
112 Cell_Container* Cell_container = create_cell_container_for_microenvironment( microenvironment, mechanics_voxel_size );
113
114 /* Users typically start modifying here. START USERMODS */
115
116 create_cell_type=();
117 setup_tissue();
118
119 /* Users typically stop modifying here. END USERMODS */
120
121 // set MultiCellDS save options
122
123
124 set_save_biofvm_mesh_as_matlab( true );
125 set_save_biofvm_data_as_matlab( true );
126 set_save_biofvm_cell_data( true );
127 set_save_biofvm_cell_data_as_custom_matlab( true );
128
129 // save a simulation snapshot
130
131 char filename[1024];
132 sprintf( filename, "%s/initial", PhysiCell_settings.folder.c_str() );
133 save_PhysiCell_to_MultiCellDS_xml_pugi( filename, microenvironment, PhysiCell_globals.current_time );
134
135 // save a quick SVG cross section through z=0, after setting its
136 // length bar to 200 microns
137
138 PhysiCell_SVG_options.length_bar = 200;
139
140 // for simplicity, set a pathology coloring function
```

Project structure: main.cpp (continued)

- **main.cpp**

- set coloring function

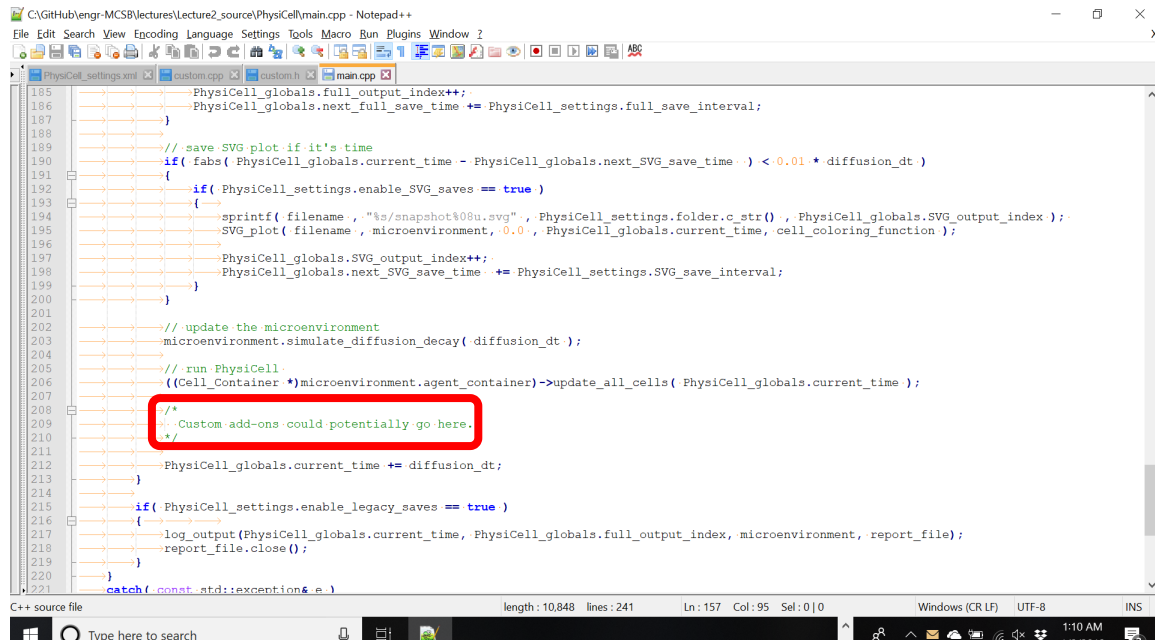


```
139 // for simplicity, set a pathology coloring function
140
141 std::vector<std::string> (*cell_coloring_function) (Cell*) = my_coloring_function;
142
143 sprintf( filename , "%s/initial.svg" , PhysiCell_settings.folder.c_str() );
144 SVG_plot( filename , microenvironment, 0.0 , PhysiCell_globals.current_time , cell_coloring_function );
145
146 display_citations();
147
148 // set the performance timers
149
150 BioFVM::RUNTIME_TIC();
151 BioFVM::TIC();
152
153 std::ofstream report_file;
154 if( PhysiCell_settings.enable_legacy_saves == true )
155 {
156     sprintf( filename , "%s/simulation_report.txt" , PhysiCell_settings.folder.c_str() );
157     report_file.open(filename); // create the data log file
158     report_file<<"simulated time\tnum. cells\tnum. division\tnum. death\twall time"<<std::endl;
159 }
160
161 // main loop
162
163 try
164 {
165     while( PhysiCell_globals.current_time < PhysiCell_settings.max_time + 0.1*diffusion_dt )
166     {
167         // save data if it's time
168         if( fabs( PhysiCell_globals.current_time - PhysiCell_globals.next_full_save_time ) < 0.01*diffusion_dt )
169         {
170             display_simulation_status( std::cout );
171             if( PhysiCell_settings.enable_legacy_saves == true )
172             {
173                 log_output( PhysiCell_globals.current_time , PhysiCell_globals.full_output_index , microenvironment , report_file );
174             }
175         }
176     }
177 }
```

Project structure: main.cpp (continued)

- **main.cpp**

- insert custom routines
- **This would be a good place to put extensions.**



```
C:\GitHub\engr-MCSB\lectures\Lecture2_source\PhysiCell\main.cpp - Notepad++
File Edit Search View Encoding Language Settings Tools Macro Run Plugins Window ?

PhysiCell_globals.full_output_index++;
PhysiCell_globals.next_full_save_time += PhysiCell_settings.full_save_interval;
}
// save SVG plot if it's time
if( fabs( PhysiCell_globals.current_time - PhysiCell_globals.next_SVG_save_time ) < 0.01 * diffusion_dt )
{
    if( PhysiCell_settings.enable_SVG_saves == true )
    {
        sprintf( filename, "%s/snapshot%08u.svg", PhysiCell_settings.folder.c_str(), PhysiCell_globals.SVG_output_index );
        SVG_plot( filename, microenvironment, 0.0, PhysiCell_globals.current_time, cell_coloring_function );
        PhysiCell_globals.SVG_output_index++;
        PhysiCell_globals.next_SVG_save_time += PhysiCell_settings.SVG_save_interval;
    }
}
// update the microenvironment
microenvironment.simulate_diffusion_decay( diffusion_dt );
// run PhysiCell
(Cell_Container *)microenvironment.agent_container->update_all_cells( PhysiCell_globals.current_time );
/*
 * Custom add-ons could potentially go here.
 */
PhysiCell_globals.current_time += diffusion_dt;
}
if( PhysiCell_settings.enable_legacy_saves == true )
{
    log_output( PhysiCell_globals.current_time, PhysiCell_globals.full_output_index, microenvironment, report_file );
    report_file.close();
}
}
catch( const std::exception& e )
```

Let's modify the microenvironment

- Open ./config/PhysiCell_settings.xml
- Browse to **microenvironment_setup** block
- Modify the first **variable**
 - Change Dirichlet conditions
 - Modify diffusion and decay coefficients
 - Turn on/off gradient calculations
 - Turn on/off per-cell tracking of substrates
- Copy / paste to create more variables.

Documentation: User Guide Sec. 13.4

Tutorial:

<http://www.mathcancer.org/blog/setting-up-the-physicell-microenvironment-with-xml/>

```
<microenvironment_setup>
  <variable name="oxygen" units="mmHg" ID="0">
    <physical_parameter_set>
      <diffusion_coefficient units="micron^2/min">100000.00
    </diffusion_coefficient>
    <decay_rate units="1/min">.1</decay_rate>
    </physical_parameter_set>
    <initial_condition units="mmHg">38.0</initial_condition>
    <Dirichlet_boundary_condition units="mmHg" enabled="true">38.0
    </Dirichlet_boundary_condition>
  </variable>
  <options>
    <calculate_gradients>false</calculate_gradients>
    <track_internalized_substrates_in_each_agent>false
    </track_internalized_substrates_in_each_agent>
    <!-- not yet supported -->
    <initial_condition type="matlab" enabled="false">
      <filename>./config/initial.mat</filename>
    </initial_condition>
    <!-- not yet supported -->
    <dirichlet_nodes type="matlab" enabled="false">
      <filename>./config/dirichlet.mat</filename>
    </dirichlet_nodes>
  </options>
</microenvironment_setup>
```

User-defined parameters

- Open ./config/PhysiCell_settings.xml
- Browse to **user_parameters** block
- Each parameter has:
 - name (based on tag name)
 - type
 - ♦ double, int, bool, string
 - units
 - ♦ no auto conversions in PhysiCell -- for your own QC
 - description (optional)
 - ♦ Helps in auto-generating GUIs (later!)

Documentation: User Guide Sec. 13.5

Tutorial:

<http://www.mathcancer.org/blog/user-parameters-in-physicell/>

```
</initial_condition>
<!-- not yet supported -->
<dirichlet_nodes type="matlab" enabled="false">
  <filename>./config/dirichlet.mat</filename>
</dirichlet_nodes>
</options>
</microenvironment_setup>

<user_parameters>
  <tumor_radius type="double" units="micron">250.0</tumor_radius>
  <oncoprotein_mean type="double" units="dimensionless">1.0</oncoprotein_mean>
  <oncoprotein_sd type="double" units="dimensionless">0.25</oncoprotein_sd>
  <oncoprotein_min type="double" units="dimensionless">0.0</oncoprotein_min>
  <oncoprotein_max type="double" units="dimensionless">2</oncoprotein_max>
  <random_seed type="int" units="dimensionless">0</random_seed>
  <color type="string" units="dimensionless"
    >description="cell_color">rgb(255,0,0)</color>
  <thanos_event type="bool" units="dimensionless"
    >description="Enable / disable Thanos event">true</thanos_event>
  <avengers_count type="int" units="dimensionless"
    >description="Initial number of Avengers">3</avengers_count>
</user_parameters>
</PhysiCell_settings>
```

Accessing user-defined parameters

- In PhysiCell projects, the parameter values can be accessed via:
 - `parameters.doubles(name)`
 - ♦ `double d_temp = parameters.doubles("tumor_radius");`
 - `parameters.ints(name)`
 - ♦ `int n_temp = parameters.ints("avengers_count");`
 - `parameters.bools(name)`
 - ♦ `bool b_temp = parameters.bools("thanos_event");`
 - `parameters.strings(name)`
 - ♦ `std::string sz_temp = parameters.strings("color");`
- In PhysiCell projects, the parameter data structures can be accessed via:
 - `parameters.doubles[name]`
 - ♦ `std::cout << parameters.doubles["tumor_radius"].units << std::endl;`

Documentation: User Guide Sec. 13.5.2

Tutorial:

<http://www.mathcancer.org/blog/user-parameters-in-physicell/>

Key cell information

- Each cell agent is part of the `cell` class.
- Some key data:
 - `std::string type_name` // human-readable name of cell type
 - `int type` // machine-readable unique integer identifier for cell type
 - `int ID` // cell agent's unique integer identifier. (different for each cell)
 - `int index` // cell's unique position in `std::vector<Basic_Agent*> all_basic_agents`
 - `custom_data` // custom scalar and vector data (more later)
 - `parameters` // oxygen and other parameters, and pointer to a reference phenotype
 - `functions` // list of key cell functions (more later)
 - `cell_state` // things like size (more later)
 - `phenotype` // behavioral properties / state (more later)

Cell Definitions

- A **Cell Definition** is a convenient way to set the parameters and functions for a whole class of cells
 - Users can instantiate cells of a specific type using `create_cell()`
 - With no argument, new cells use the `cell_defaults` definition
- Best practice: set up the `cell_defaults` definition with the correct custom data and functions, then copy this to make new cell definitions
- Tip: Refer back to the phenotype in your agent's cell definition as a reference parameter set (i.e., to get the initial parameter values)

Documentation: User Guide Sec. 9.4.5

Exercise 1

- Populate cancer-biorobots project
- Modify configuration file
 - Set oxygen boundary value at 40 mmHg
 - Enable gradient calculations
 - Set max run time to 3 days (4320 minutes)
 - Add a custom user parameter "speed" at 1 micron/min
 - Add a custom user parameter "motile_fraction", initially 0.5
 - Add a custom user parameter "max_cycle_entry_rate", initially 0.25 1/hr
 - Set therapy activation time to never (a really really big number)
- Modify default cell definition
 - Set the speed according to your parameter
 - Make default definition non-motile (for now!)
 - Set the cycle entry rate to the parameter rate
- Modify the tissue setup
 - With motile_fraction probability, set some cells motile

Populate and initially build project

- make reset
- make heterogeneity-sample
- make

```
Command Prompt
c:\PhysiCell>make reset
rm -f *.cpp
cp ./sample_projects/Makefile-default Makefile
rm -f ./custom_modules/*
touch ./custom_modules/empty.txt
touch ALL_CITATIONS.txt
rm ALL_CITATIONS.txt
cp ./config/PhysiCell_settings-backup.xml ./config/PhysiCell_settings.xml

c:\PhysiCell>make cancer-biorobots-sample
cp ./sample_projects/cancer_biorobots/custom_modules/* ./custom_modules/
touch main.cpp && cp main.cpp main-backup.cpp
cp ./sample_projects/cancer_biorobots/main-cancer_biorobots.cpp ./main.cpp
cp Makefile Makefile-backup
cp ./sample_projects/cancer_biorobots/Makefile .
cp ./config/PhysiCell_settings.xml ./config/PhysiCell_settings-backup.xml
cp ./sample_projects/cancer_biorobots/config/* ./config/

c:\PhysiCell>make
g++ -march=native -O3 -fomit-frame-pointer -mfpmath=both -fopenmp -m64 -std=c++11 -c ./custom_modules/cancer_biorobots.cpp
g++ -march=native -O3 -fomit-frame-pointer -mfpmath=both -fopenmp -m64 -std=c++11 -o cancer_biorobots BioFVM_vector.o BioFVM_mesh.o BioFVM_microenvironment.o BioFVM_solvers.o BioFVM_matlab.o BioFVM_utilities.o BioFVM_basic_agent.o BioFVM_MultiCellDS.o BioFVM_agent_container.o pugixml.o PhysiCell_phenotype.o PhysiCell_cell_container.o PhysiCell_standard_models.o PhysiCell_cell.o PhysiCell_custom.o PhysiCell_utilities.o PhysiCell_constants.o PhysiCell_SVG.o PhysiCell_pathology.o PhysiCell_MultiCellDS.o PhysiCell_various_outputs.o PhysiCell_pugixml.o PhysiCell_settings.o cancer_biorobots.o main.cpp

c:\PhysiCell>
```

Modify configuration file (1)

- **Modify the microenvironment setup** (./config/PhysiCell_settings.xml)

```
<microenvironment_setup>
  <variable name="oxygen" units="mmHg" ID="0">
    <physical_parameter_set>
      <diffusion_coefficient units="micron^2/min">100000.00</diffusion_coefficient>
      <decay_rate units="1/min">.1</decay_rate>
    </physical_parameter_set>
    <initial_condition units="mmHg">38.0</initial_condition>
    <Dirichlet_boundary_condition units="mmHg"
      enabled="true">40.0</Dirichlet_boundary_condition>
  </variable>
  // ...
</options>
  <calculate_gradients>true</calculate_gradients>
  <track_internalized_substrates_in_each_agent>>false
    </track_internalized_substrates_in_each_agent>
  // ...
</options>
</microenvironment_setup>
```

Modify configuration file (2)

- **Modify time options**

```
<overall>
  <max_time units="min">4320</max_time>
  <time_units>min</time_units>
  <space_units>micron</space_units>

  <dt_diffusion units="min">0.01</dt_diffusion>
  <dt_mechanics units="min">0.1</dt_mechanics>
  <dt_phenotype units="min">6</dt_phenotype>
</overall>
```



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Modify configuration file (3)

- **Modify user-defined parameters**

- Disable therapy
- Add custom parameters
 - ♦ Careful on units!

```
<user_parameters>
  <random_seed type="int" units="dimensionless">0</random_seed>
  <!-- for main -->
  <therapy_activation_time type="double" units="min">9e99</therapy_activation_time>
    <!-- activate in 7 days -->
  <save_interval_after_therapy_start type="double" units="min">3</save_interval_after_therapy_start>

  <!-- for tumor cells -->
  <speed type="double" units="micron/min"
    description="tumor cell speed">1.0</speed>
  <motile_fraction type="double" units="dimensionless"
    description="initial fraction of motile cells">0.5</motile_fraction>
  <max_cycle_entry_rate type="double" units="1/min"
    description="max cycle entry rate">0.00417</max_cycle_entry_rate>
  // ...
```

Modify the default cell definition

- Open `./custom_modules/cancer-biorobots.cpp`
- Open documentation: `./documentation/User_Guide.pdf`
- Find `create_cell_types()`
- Edit the default cell type
 - Edit the motile speed, but le
 - We use the live cell cycle: only one phase (0th phase)
 - ♦ Edit the $0 \rightarrow 0$ transition rate

```
// ...  
// further edit the default cell type here  
cell_defaults.phenotype.motility.is_motile = false;  
    // set motile speed  
cell_defaults.phenotype.motility.migration_speed =  
    parameters.doubles("speed");  
    // set cycle entry rate (0 --> 0)  
cell_defaults.phenotype.cycle.data.transition_rate(0,0) =  
    parameters.doubles( "max_cycle_entry_rate" );  
return;
```


Modify the tissue setup

- Find `setup_tissue()`
- Let's just cycle through the list of all cells
 - Check if it's a tumor cell by comparing IDs
 - If so, then with the probability in your config file, set motility on

```
// iterate through all cells
// if it's a tumor cell, try to make it motile
for( int n = 0; n < (*all_cells).size(); n++ )
{
    pCell = (*all_cells)[n] ;
    if( pCell->type == cell_defaults.type )
    {
        if( UniformRandom() <= parameters.doubles( "motile_fraction" ) )
        { pCell->phenotype.motility.is_motile = true; }
    }
}
return;
}
```



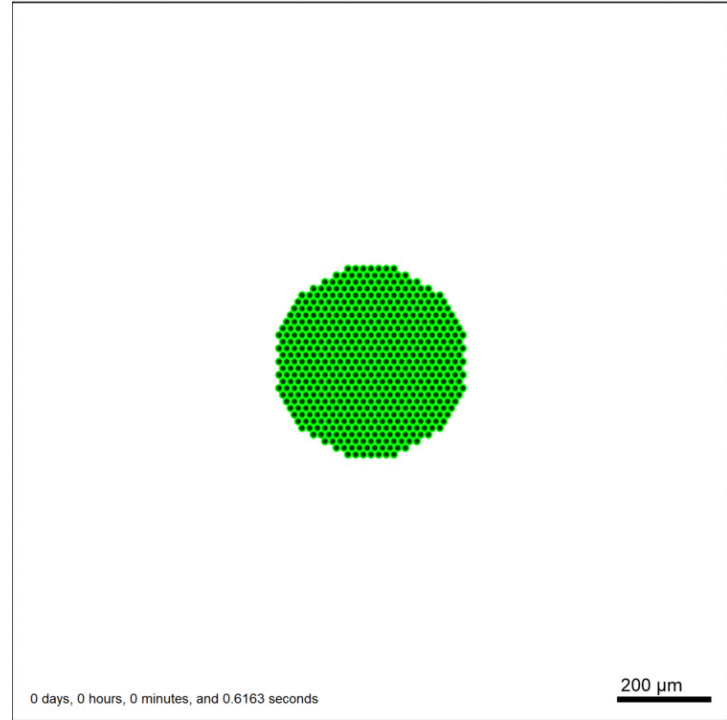
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Build and run the project

- **make**
- **cancer-biorobots**
- Let it run about 10 minutes
- Then, visualize
 - **cd output**
 - **magick mogrify -format jpg -resize 50% snap*.svg**
 - **magick convert *.jpg out.gif**

Current time: 0 days, 0 hours, and 0.00 minutes, z = 0.00 μm
571 agents



Break



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Part 3

Making new projects in PhysiCell



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Agenda (second half):

Part 3: Making new projects in PhysiCell

- Introduce general modeling workflow
- Work with cell definitions
- Introduce functions in PhysiCell
- Attach functions to Cell Definitions
- Add custom data to cells
- Setup routines
- Place new cells
- Coloring functions (for SVG)
- **Exercise 2:** Modify a 3D project with basic metabolism and energy-dependent cycling and death

Part 4: Special topics

- Introduce tools ecosystem (and povwriter)
- Create mpeg4 movies

Typical modeling workflow

- Plan!
- Create a new project (start with 2D or 3D template)
- Set up the XML (`./config/PhysiCell_settings.xml`).
 - Set up the chemical microenvironment
 - Set up user-defined parameters
- Define cells (`create_cell_types()`)
 - Add custom data to the default cell definition
 - Create any needed custom function (for model rules)
 - Create and configure cell definitions
- Place cells (`setup_tissue()`)
 - Place different cell types in their initial positions
- Compile and run

Reminder: phenotype-centric programming

- The core cell behaviors are implemented:
 - Cell cycling (with user-selectable models)
 - Cell death
 - Cell adhesion / repulsion
 - Cell motility
 - Cell secretion / uptake
- Modelers can focus on writing functions that control these behaviors.
- This is **phenotype-centric programming**.

Reminder: cell definitions

- A **Cell Definition** is a convenient way to set the parameters and functions for a whole class of cells
 - Users can instantiate cells of a specific type using `create_cell()`
 - With no argument, new cells use the **cell_defaults** definition
- Best practice: set up the **cell_defaults** definition with the correct custom data and functions, then copy this to make new cell definitions
- Tip: Refer back to the phenotype in your agent's cell definition as a reference parameter set (i.e., to get the initial parameter values)

Documentation: User Guide Sec. 9.4.5

Custom cell data

- Each cell can have scalar and vector **custom data**.
 - We'll eventually merge these, so I suggest focusing on scalars.
- Use these for cell-specific models, or to track new things

Add a custom variable:

```
// Custom_Data::add_variable( name, units , default_value );  
cell_defaults.custom_data.add_variable( "oxygen_AUC", "mmHg * min", 0.0 );
```

Access a custom variable:

```
cell_defaults.custom_data["oxygen_AUC"] += dt*O2;  
pCell->custom_data["oxygen_AUC"] += dt*O2;
```

- Best practice: set up the **cell_defaults** definition with the correct custom data.
Then copy this to make new cell definitions

Documentation: User Guide Sec. 9.4.1

Functions in PhysiCell

- Almost all functions in PhysiCell have this form:

```
void my_function( Cell* pCell, Phenotype& phenotype, double dt );
```

All cells have the following key functions (in `pCell->functions`):

- `volume_update_function`
- `update_migration_bias`
- `custom_cell_rule` (default NULL, evaluated at each mechanics time step)
- `update_velocity`
- `set_orientation`

Documentation: User Guide Sections 9.4.3, 19.1

Example function: chemotaxis

```
void chemotaxis( Cell* pCell, Phenotype* phenotype, double dt )
{
    static int o2_index = microenvironment.find_density_index( "oxygen" );
    // enable it
    phenotype.motility.is_motile = true;

    // set bias
    phenotype.motility.migration_bias = 1.0;

    // set direction
    phenotype.motility.migration_bias_direction =
        pCell->nearest_gradient(o2_index);

    // normalize
    normalize( &( phenotype.motility.migration_bias_direction ) );

    // set persistence time
    phenotype.motility.persistence_time = 1.0;

    return;
}
```



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How to attach a function to a cell definition

- Suppose we want to attach chemotaxis to the default celltype

```
cell_defaults.functions.update_migration_bias = chemotaxis;
```



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How to place a new cell (default)

```
// declare a cell pointer
Cell* pCell;

// create a cell
pCell = create_cell();

// assign its position
std::vector<double> position = {0,0,0};
pCell->assign_position( position );

// set any other state variables or properties
pCell->phenotype.motility.is_motile = false;
pCell->custom_data[ "damage" ] = 0.0;
```

How to place a new cell (custom type)

```
// declare a cell pointer
Cell* pCell;

// create a cell
pCell = create_cell( Thanos );

// assign its position
std::vector<double> position = {0,0,0};
pCell->assign_position( position );

// set any other state variables or properties
pCell->phenotype.motility.is_motile = false;
pCell->custom_data[ "damage" ] = 0.0;
```



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Custom coloring functions for SVGs (1)

Declare the function in the custom header file

```
std::vector<std::string> my_coloring_function( Cell* );
```

Create it in the custom cpp file

```
std::vector<std::string> my_coloring_function( Cell* pCell )
{
    // color 0: cytoplasm fill
    // color 1: outer outline
    // color 2: nuclear fill
    // color 3: nuclear outline

    // start black
    std::vector< std::string > output( 4, "black" );
    // make the cytoplasm red if it's not dead
    if( pCell->phenotype.death.dead == false )
    { output[0] = "red"; }
    return output;
}
```

Tell PhysiCell to use your coloring function

In main.cpp

```
std::vector<std::string> (*cell_coloring_function) (Cell*) =  
    my_coloring_function;
```

Colors follow the W3C standards for SVG files. Names, RGB values, etc.

<https://www.w3.org/TR/SVG11/types.html#ColorKeywords>

User Guide: Section 14.2

Exercise 2: new 3D project

- Let's make a 3D simulation
- Tumor cells uptake oxygen and glucose to make energy
- Cells make waste
- Cell proliferate more with more energy
- Cells necrose with very low energy
- Cells apoptosis with increasing waste
- Later: Some cells are motile in low O₂ (chemotactic), but that consumes energy

Modeling workflow

- Plan!
- Create a new project (start with 2D or 3D template)
- Set up the XML (`./config/PhysiCell_settings.xml`).
 - Set up the chemical microenvironment
 - Set up user-defined parameters
- Define cells (`create_cell_types()`)
 - Add custom data to the default cell definition
 - Create any needed custom function (for model rules)
 - Create and configure cell definitions
- Place cells (`setup_tissue()`)
 - Place different cell types in their initial positions
- Compile and run

Planning

- What microenvironment variables?
 - Oxygen, glucose, waste
- What cell types?
 - Just a tumor cell type for now
- What custom data?
 - Store energy
 - Parameters for metabolism model
 - Parameters for birth, apoptosis, necrosis
 - Parameters for motility
- What functions?
 - metabolism model
 - set birth, death, and motility based on energy and/or O2

Planning: metabolism

- Cells can use two types of "metabolism"

$$\frac{dE}{dt} = \alpha\sigma g + \beta g - uE$$

- Cells consume supplies and make waste

$$U_\sigma = 10\alpha$$

$$U_g = 0.2(\alpha + \beta)$$

$$S_w = 10r$$

- Cell behaviors consume more energy:

$$u = \mu(0.1 + \alpha + \beta + 2r + 5s)$$

- s = motile speed

- Let's give each cell independent "gene expressions" for α, β, r

- Suppose cell cycling increases with energy:

$$b = \begin{cases} 0 & E < 0.1 \\ b_M \left(\frac{E - 0.1}{0.9 - 0.1} \right) & 0.1 < E < 0.9 \\ b_M & 0.9 < E \end{cases}$$

- Necrotic death increases below $E = 0.1$

$$d_N = d_{\text{nec}} \left(\frac{0.1 - E}{0.1} \right)^+$$

- Apoptotic death increases with waste:

- But r gives tolerance (resistance) to the waste

$$d_A = d_{\text{apop}}(1 + 9w(1 - r))$$

What we'll need

- Modify the microenvironment
 - oxygen, glucose, waste
- Change the custom variables in cell defaults
 - alpha, beta, resistance, energy, use_rate
 - Let's leave all the birth and death rates relatively untouched.
- A new phenotype function
 - `void energy_based_cell_phenotype(Cell* , Phenotype& , dt)`
- Modify the cell_defaults with:
 - Custom data and the new phenotype function.
- Modify the setup_tissue() to choose random values of alpha, beta, resistance for each cell.
- New coloring function (to tailor the SVGs)
 - `energy_coloring_function(Cell*)`

Create a new project

`make data-cleanup`

`make reset`

`make template3D`



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Set up the XML



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Let's modify the microenvironment

- Open ./config/PhysiCell_settings.xml
- Browse to **microenvironment_setup** block
- Modify the first **variable**
- Now, copy it to make **glucose** and **waste**

Documentation: User Guide Sec. 13.4

Tutorial:

<http://www.mathcancer.org/blog/setting-up-the-physicell-microenvironment-with-xml/>

Modifying the microenvironment (1)

Modify oxygen to be dimensionless, set initial and boundary values

```
<variable name="oxygen" units="dimensionless" ID="0">
  <physical_parameter_set>
    <diffusion_coefficient units="micron^2/min">100000.00</diffusion_coefficient>
    <decay_rate units="1/min">.1</decay_rate>
  </physical_parameter_set>
  <initial_condition units="mmHg">1</initial_condition>
  <Dirichlet_boundary_condition units="mmHg"
    enabled="true">1</Dirichlet_boundary_condition>
</variable>
```

Modifying the microenvironment (2)

Copy oxygen to make glucose and waste.

```
<variable name="glucose" units="dimensionless" ID="1">
  <physical_parameter_set>
    <diffusion_coefficient units="micron^2/min">18000</diffusion_coefficient>
    <decay_rate units="1/min">0</decay_rate>
  </physical_parameter_set>
  <initial_condition units="mmHg">1</initial_condition>
  <Dirichlet_boundary_condition units="mmHg" enabled="true">1</Dirichlet_boundary_condition>
</variable>

<variable name="waste" units="dimensionless" ID="2">
  <physical_parameter_set>
    <diffusion_coefficient units="micron^2/min">100000.00</diffusion_coefficient>
    <decay_rate units="1/min">0</decay_rate>
  </physical_parameter_set>
  <initial_condition units="mmHg">0</initial_condition>
  <Dirichlet_boundary_condition units="mmHg" enabled="true">0</Dirichlet_boundary_condition>
</variable>
```

Modifying the microenvironment (3)

<options>

<calculate_gradients>>false</calculate_gradients>

<track_internalized_substrates_in_each_agent>>false</track_internalized_substrates_in_each_agent>

<!-- not yet supported -->

<initial_condition type="matlab" enabled="false">

<filename>./config/initial.mat</filename>

</initial_condition>

<!-- not yet supported -->

<dirichlet_nodes type="matlab" enabled="false">

<filename>./config/dirichlet.mat</filename>

</dirichlet_nodes>

</options>



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Define cells



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Let's add new custom variables

in `create_cell_types()` in `custom.cpp`

```
// add custom data here, if any
```

```
cell_defaults.custom_data.add_variable( "alpha" , "dimensionless", 1.0 );  
cell_defaults.custom_data.add_variable( "beta" , "dimensionless", 1.0 );  
cell_defaults.custom_data.add_variable( "resistance" , "dimensionless", 1.0 );  
cell_defaults.custom_data.add_variable( "use_rate" , "dimensionless", 1.0 );  
cell_defaults.custom_data.add_variable( "energy" , "dimensionless", 1.0 );
```



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Let's set up the default type a bit

in custom.cpp, in create_cell_types :

```
// set default cell cycle model to live
```

```
cell_defaults.functions.cycle_model = live; // flow_cytometry_separated_cycle_model;
```

```
// Delete out all the junk for motile cells in custom.cpp
```

In custom.cpp, in setup_tissue :

```
// delete anything that seeds a motile cell
```

In custom.cpp and custom.h :

```
// delete declarations of motile cell type
```

Let's make a new phenotype function (1)

First, declare the new function in custom.h

```
// custom cell phenotype functions could go here
```

```
void energy_based_cell_phenotype( Cell* pCell, Phenotype& phenotype, double dt );
```

Next, let's implement. In the function in custom.cpp

```
void energy_based_cell_phenotype( Cell* pCell, Phenotype& phenotype, double dt )
{
    // housekeeping: one-time searches for variables
    // for finding the right cycle phases
    static int cycle_start_index = live.find_phase_index( PhysiCell_constants::live );
    static int cycle_end_index = live.find_phase_index( PhysiCell_constants::live );

    // for finding the death model indices
    static int apoptosis_i =
        cell_defaults.phenotype.death.find_death_model_index( PhysiCell_constants::apoptosis_death_model );
    static int necrosis_i =
        cell_defaults.phenotype.death.find_death_model_index( PhysiCell_constants::necrosis_death_model );

    // for accessing the custom variables
    static int energy_i = pCell->custom_data.find_variable_index( "energy" );
    static int alpha_i = pCell->custom_data.find_variable_index( "alpha" );
    static int beta_i = pCell->custom_data.find_variable_index( "beta" );
    static int resistance_i = pCell->custom_data.find_variable_index( "resistance" );
    static int use_rate_i = pCell->custom_data.find_variable_index( "use_rate" );

    // for sampling the microenvironment
    static int oxygen_i = microenvironment.find_density_index( "oxygen" );
    static int glucose_i = microenvironment.find_density_index( "glucose" );
    static int waste_i = microenvironment.find_density_index( "waste" );
```

Let's make a new phenotype function (2)

Next, a fun trick: check to see if the cell's dead. If so, set uptake / secretions rates to zero, and overwrite the function pointer so that we don't keep asking dead cells to do things. :-)

```
// if I'm dead, set secretoin rates to zero, and tell us not to  
// bother checking ever again.
```

```
if( phenotype.death.dead == true )  
{  
    phenotype.secretion.set_all_secretion_to_zero();  
    phenotype.secretion.set_all_uptake_to_zero();  
  
    pCell->functions.update_phenotype = NULL;  
    return;  
}
```



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Let's make a new phenotype function (3)

Let's do the energy model

```
// do the basic energy model
// use rate : u = alpha + beta + resistance
double alpha = pCell->custom_data[alpha_i];
double beta = pCell->custom_data[beta_i];
double resistance = pCell->custom_data[resistance_i];

pCell->custom_data[use_rate_i] = 0.1 + alpha + 2*beta + 2*resistance;
if( phenotype.motility.is_motile )
{ pCell->custom_data[use_rate_i] += (5.0* phenotype.motility.migration_speed ); }

// sample the oxygen, glucose, and waste
double oxygen = pCell->nearest_density_vector()[oxygen_i];
double glucose = pCell->nearest_density_vector()[glucose_i];
double waste = pCell->nearest_density_vector()[waste_i];
// run the ODE. Let's use backwards Euler
double use_rate = pCell->custom_data[use_rate_i];

pCell->custom_data[energy_i] +=
    dt*( alpha*oxygen*glucose + beta*glucose );
pCell->custom_data[energy_i] /= ( 1.0 + dt*use_rate );
```

Let's make a new phenotype function (4)

Let's uptake secretion/ uptake

```
// set secretion parameters
phenotype.secretion.secretion_rates[waste_i] = beta * 10.0;
phenotype.secretion.saturation_densities[waste_i] = 1.0;
// set uptake rates
phenotype.secretion.uptake_rates[oxygen_i] = alpha * 10.0;
phenotype.secretion.uptake_rates[glucose_i] = 0.2*(alpha+beta);
```

Next, the cell cycle rate

```
// set cycle parameters
double energy = pCell->custom_data[energy_i];
double scale = ( energy - 0.1 ) / ( 0.9 - 0.1 );
if( scale > 1.0 )
{ scale = 1.0; }
if( scale < 0.0 )
{ scale = 0.0; }
phenotype.cycle.data.transition_rate( cycle_start_index , cycle_end_index ) =
    6.94e-4 * scale;
// 1/24 hr-1 max birth rate, in units of min-1
```

Let's make a new phenotype function (5)

Lastly, let's set the death rates

```
// set necrotic death rate
scale = ( 0.1 - energy )/0.1;
if( scale < 0.0 )
{ scale = 0.0; }
if( scale > 1.0 )
{ scale = 1.0; }
phenotype.death.rates[necrosis_i] = scale * 0.01 ;
// 100 minute survival time when zero energy;

// set the apoptotic death rate
scale = 1.0 + 9.0*(1.0-pCell->custom_data[resistance_i])*waste;
phenotype.death.rates[apoptosis_i] = scale * 6.94e-6;
// 1% of the max birth rate

return;
}
```

Now, in create_cell_types, let's switch to this rule:

```
cell_defaults.functions.update_phenotype = energy_based_cell_phenotype;
```

Place cells



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Modify setup_tissue()

Some bookkeeping

```
// some bookkeeping
static int energy_i = cell_defaults.custom_data.find_variable_index( "energy" );
static int alpha_i = cell_defaults.custom_data.find_variable_index( "alpha" );
static int beta_i = cell_defaults.custom_data.find_variable_index( "beta" );
static int resistance_i = cell_defaults.custom_data.find_variable_index("resistance");
static int use_rate_i = cell_defaults.custom_data.find_variable_index( "use_rate" );
```

and now let's put 750 cells at random within 100 microns of the origin

```
for( int n=0 ; n < 750 ; n++ )
{
    Cell* pCell = create_cell();
    std::vector<double> position = {0,0,0};
    position[0] = UniformRandom();
    position[1] = UniformRandom();
    position[2] = UniformRandom();
    normalize( position );
    position *= ( 100.0 * UniformRandom() );
    pCell->assign_position( position );

    // choose random properties
    pCell->custom_data[alpha_i] = UniformRandom();
    pCell->custom_data[beta_i] = UniformRandom();
    pCell->custom_data[resistance_i] = UniformRandom();
}
```

Make a coloring function



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A custom coloring function for SVGs (1)

Declare the function in custom.h (replace my_coloring_function)

```
std::vector<std::string> energy_coloring_function( Cell* );
```

Create it in custom.cpp

```
std::vector<std::string> energy_coloring_function( Cell* pCell )
{
    // color 0: cytoplasm fill
    // color 1: outer outline
    // color 2: nuclear fill
    // color 3: nuclear outline

    // some bookkeeping
    static int energy_i = pCell->custom_data.find_variable_index( "energy" );
    static int alpha_i = pCell->custom_data.find_variable_index( "alpha" );
    static int beta_i = pCell->custom_data.find_variable_index( "beta" );
    static int resistance_i = pCell->custom_data.find_variable_index( "resistance" );
    static int use_rate_i = pCell->custom_data.find_variable_index( "use_rate" );

    // start black
    std::vector< std::string > output( 4, "black" );
```

A custom coloring function for SVGs (2)

Sample cell properties and set colors (if not dead)

```
// nucleus: color by the three "genes"
// red: alpha
// green: beta
// blue: resistance
// cytoplasm: energy (black = 0, white >= 1)
if( pCell->phenotype.death.dead == false )
{
    int red = (int) round( 255.0 * pCell->custom_data[alpha_i] );
    int green = (int) round( 255.0 * pCell->custom_data[beta_i] );
    int blue = (int) round( 255.0 * pCell->custom_data[resistance_i] );
    int grey = (int) round( 255.0 * pCell->custom_data[energy_i] );
    char szTempString [128];
    sprintf( szTempString , "rgb(%u,%u,%u)", red, green, blue );
    output[2].assign( szTempString ); // nucleus by alpha, beta, resistance "genes"
    sprintf( szTempString , "rgb(%u,%u,%u)", grey, grey, grey );
    output[0].assign( szTempString ); // cyto by energy

    return output;
}
```


A custom coloring function for SVGs (3)

Standard dead colors

```
// if not, dead colors

if (pCell->phenotype.cycle.current_phase().code == PhysiCell_constants::apoptotic )
    // Apoptotic - Red
    {
        output[0] = "rgb(255,0,0)";
        output[2] = "rgb(125,0,0)";
    }

// Necrotic - Brown
if( pCell->phenotype.cycle.current_phase().code == PhysiCell_constants::necrotic_swelling ||
    pCell->phenotype.cycle.current_phase().code == PhysiCell_constants::necrotic_lysed ||
    pCell->phenotype.cycle.current_phase().code == PhysiCell_constants::necrotic )
    {
        output[0] = "rgb(250,138,38)";
        output[2] = "rgb(139,69,19)";
    }

return output;
}
```

A custom coloring function for SVGs (4)

Select this coloring function in main.cpp

```
std::vector<std::string> (*cell_coloring_function) (Cell*) = energy_coloring_function;
```

Now, go back to config. Set max time to 7200, save interval to 60 min, and domain size to $[-300, 300] \times [-300, 300] \times [-300, 300]$

Now, compile and run! (Can take 20-60 minutes, depending on your machine.)

```
make && ./project3D
```



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Part 4

Special topics



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Agenda (second half):

Part 3: Making new projects in PhysiCell

- Introduce general modeling workflow
- Work with cell definitions
- Introduce functions in PhysiCell
- Attach functions to Cell Definitions
- Add custom data to cells
- Setup routines
- Place new cells
- Coloring functions (for SVG)
- **Exercise 2:** Modify a 3D project with basic metabolism and energy-dependent cycling and death

Part 4: Special topics

- Introduce tools ecosystem (and povwriter)
- Create mpeg4 movies

PhysiCell-Tools ecosystem

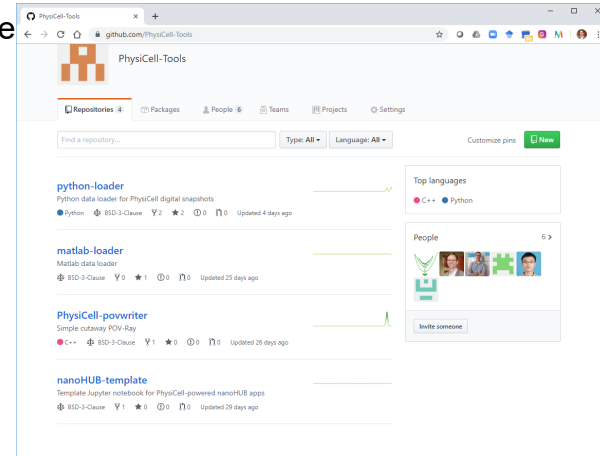
- A collection of stand-alone utilities to smooth use of PhysiCell
- Typically, a blog post or tutorial for each tool
- PhysiCell-Tools GitHub organization stores officially supported tools
 - <https://www.github.com/PhysiCell-Tools>

Current tools:

- **PhysiCell-povwriter:** Write PhysiCell output to POV-Ray scenes for raytracing
- **Python-loader:** Load PhysiCell simulation output data into a nice Python data structure
- **Matlab-loader:** A basic Matlab data loader
- **nanoHUB-template:** Template Jupyter notebook for nanoHUB apps

Future:

- Migrate scattered internal tools into PhysiCell-Tools
- Develop protocols to officially "adopt" community-contributed tools
- Develop documentation and other requirements for tools
- PhysiCell.org or other registry links external, non-official tools



PhysiCell Povwriter

- POV-Ray is an open source raytracer
- It simulates human vision in a 3D scene by tracing the path of light
- PhysiCell-povwriter converts PhysiCell simulation data to povray scenes
- It has some rudimentary support for:
 - clipping planes (cutaway views)
 - XML-based colors
 - User-defined coloring functions
 - Processing multiple scene files in parallel
- **Blog tutorial:** <http://www.mathcancer.org/blog/povwriter/>

Let's try it out on our 3D data

- Download the package
- Unzip somewhere
- open a simulation XML file to see what data fields are available
- look for labels:
 - the **index** is the position of the data field in the associated matlab file
 - Here, we might want to plot energy, for example, or query for the cycle model

```
<cellular_information>
  <cell_populations>
    <cell_population type="individual">
      <custom>
        <simplified_data type="matlab" source="BioFVM">
          <filename>output000000000_cells.mat</filename>
        </simplified_data>
        <simplified_data type="matlab" source="PhysiCell">
          <labels>
            <label index="0" size="1">ID</label>
            <label index="1" size="3">position</label>
            <label index="4" size="1">total_volume</label>
            <label index="5" size="1">cell_type</label>
            <label index="6" size="1">cycle_model</label>
            <label index="7" size="1">current_phase</label>
            <label index="8" size="1">elapsed_time_in_phase</label>
            <label index="9" size="1">nuclear_volume</label>
            <label index="10" size="1">cytoplasmic_volume</label>
            <label index="11" size="1">fluid_fraction</label>
            <label index="12" size="1">calcified_fraction</label>
            <label index="13" size="3">orientation</label>
            <label index="16" size="1">polarity</label>
            <label index="17" size="1">migration_speed</label>
            <label index="18" size="3">motility_vector</label>
            <label index="21" size="1">migration_bias</label>
            <label index="22" size="3">motility_bias_direction</label>
            <label index="25" size="1">persistence_time</label>
            <label index="26" size="1">motility_reserved</label>
            <label index="27" size="1">alpha</label>
            <label index="28" size="1">beta</label>
            <label index="29" size="1">resistance</label>
            <label index="30" size="1">use_rate</label>
            <label index="31" size="1">energy</label>
          </labels>
          <filename>output000000000_cells_physicell.mat</filename>
        </simplified_data>
      </custom>
    </cell_population>
  </cell_populations>
</cellular_information>
```

Pigment and finish function

- In `./custom_modules/povwriter.cpp`, we'll modify the custom pigment function:
- ```
void my_pigment_and_finish_function(Cell_Colorset& colors,
std::vector<std::vector<double>>& MAT, int i)
```
- Here:
  - **colors** is a data structure with two pigments (colors):
    - ♦ **cyto\_pigment** is an RGB vector to color the cytoplasm. (each component is in  $[0,1]$ )
    - ♦ **nuclear\_pigment** is an RGB vector to color the nucleus. (each component is in  $[0,1]$ )
  - **MAT** is an *fields* x *n\_cells* matrix of cell data. Each row is a field. Each column is a cell. Access  $i^{th}$  cell's variable in index  $k$  via **MAT[k][i]**
  - **i** is the index of the cell you're trying to color



# Important tricks (1)

- We can use this to figure out if a cell is dead or alive

```
// first, some housekeeping
static int type_index = 5; //column that stores cell type (integer)
static int cycle_model_index = 6; // column that stores which cycle (or death) model (integer)
static int data_index = 31; // alpha is stored here

// some simple processing to see if the cell
// is live, apoptotic, or necrotic
bool necrotic = false;
bool apoptotic = false;
bool live = true;
int cycle_model = (int) round(MAT[cycle_model_index][i]);
if(cycle_model == 100)
{ apoptotic = true; live = false;}
if(cycle_model == 101)
{ necrotic = true; live = false; }
```

# Important tricks (2)

- We can use this to shade from low (blue) to high (yellow) in the **data\_index** cell variable.

```
// first, some housekeeping
static int type_index = 5; //column that stores cell type (integer)
static int cycle_model_index = 6; // column that stores which cycle (or death) model (integer)
static int data_index = 31; // alpha is stored here

double my_data = MAT[data_index][i];
if(my_data > 1.0)
{ my_data = 1.0; }
if(my_data < 0)
{ my_data = 0.0; }

if(live)
{
 colors.cyto_pigment[0] = my_data;
 colors.cyto_pigment[1] = my_data;
 colors.cyto_pigment[2] = 1.0 - my_data;
}
```

# Let's make a coloring

- Cytoplasm colored by energy level
- Nucleus colored by (alpha, beta, resistance )
- Dead cells colored based on XML settings



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# The code (1)

```
void my_pigment_and_finish_function(Cell_Colorset& colors, std::vector<std::vector<double>>& MAT, int i)
{
 // first, some housekeeping
 static int type_index = 5; // stores cell type
 static int cycle_model_index = 6; // that stores which cycle model
 static int data_index = 31; // energy index

 bool necrotic = false;
 bool apoptotic = false;
 bool live = true;
 int cycle_model = (int) round(MAT[cycle_model_index][i]);
 if(cycle_model == 100)
 { apoptotic = true; live = false; }
 if(cycle_model == 101)
 { necrotic = true; live = false; }

 // use XML-defined colors for dead cells
 int color_index = 0;
 int cell_type = (int) MAT[type_index][i];
 for(int j=0; j < cell_color_definitions.size(); j++)
 {
 if(cell_type == cell_color_definitions[j].type)
 { color_index = j; }
 }
}
```

# The code (2)

```
if(apoptotic == true)
{
 colors = cell_color_definitions[color_index].apoptotic;
 return;
}
if(necrotic == true)
{
 colors = cell_color_definitions[color_index].necrotic;
 return;
}
double my_data = MAT[data_index][i];
if(my_data > 1.0)
{ my_data = 1.0; }
if(my_data < 0)
{ my_data =0.0; }

if(live)
{
 colors.cyto_pigment[0] = my_data;
 colors.cyto_pigment[1] = my_data;
 colors.cyto_pigment[2] = 1.0 - my_data;
 colors.nuclear_pigment[0] = MAT[27][i]; // alpha
 colors.nuclear_pigment[1] = MAT[28][i]; // beta
 colors.nuclear_pigment[2] = MAT[29][i]; // gamma
}
return;
}
```

# Let's make sure we use it

- Compile and copy povwriter (executable) to the root project directory
- Copy ./config/povwriter-settings.xml to the config directory in your project
- Edit the config file:
  - in **options**, set **use\_standard\_colors** to false.
  - set the camera position in **camera**:
    - ♦ Our scene is  $[-300,300] \times [-300,300] \times [-300,300]$ , so let's place the camera 500 microns from origin
    - ♦ Also, in **clipping\_planes** I suggest we comment out all but (0,0,1,0) (points up).

# Create povray files

- Start from XML file 0, increase in increments of 1, end at 120:
- povwriter 0:1:120
- then, open the files up in povwriter (make sure you have a square screen pre-defined), and process the files to make a series of png files
-

# Create povray files

- Start from XML file 0, increase in increments of 1, end at 120:
- povwriter 0:1:120
- then, open the files up in povwriter (make sure you have a square screen pre-defined), and process the files to make a series of png files



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# Create a movie

- Convert from png to jpeg with ImageMagick:
  - `magick mogrify -format jpg *.png`
- Use mencoder to create the mpeg4 movie
  - `mencoder "mf://pov*.jpg" -ovc lavc -lavcopts vcodec=mpeg4:vbitrate=10000:mbd=2:trell -mf fps=24:type=jpg -nosound -o out.avi`
- More advanced uses: ImageMagick to apply time labels to frames.



# Tomorrow

- More advanced techniques
  - Contact testing
  - Inducing apoptosis
- Thanos vs. the Avengers
- Intro to loading data in Python
- Creating Jupyter GUIs
- Deploying PhysiCell models as cloud-hosted models