

Introducing: PhysiMESS

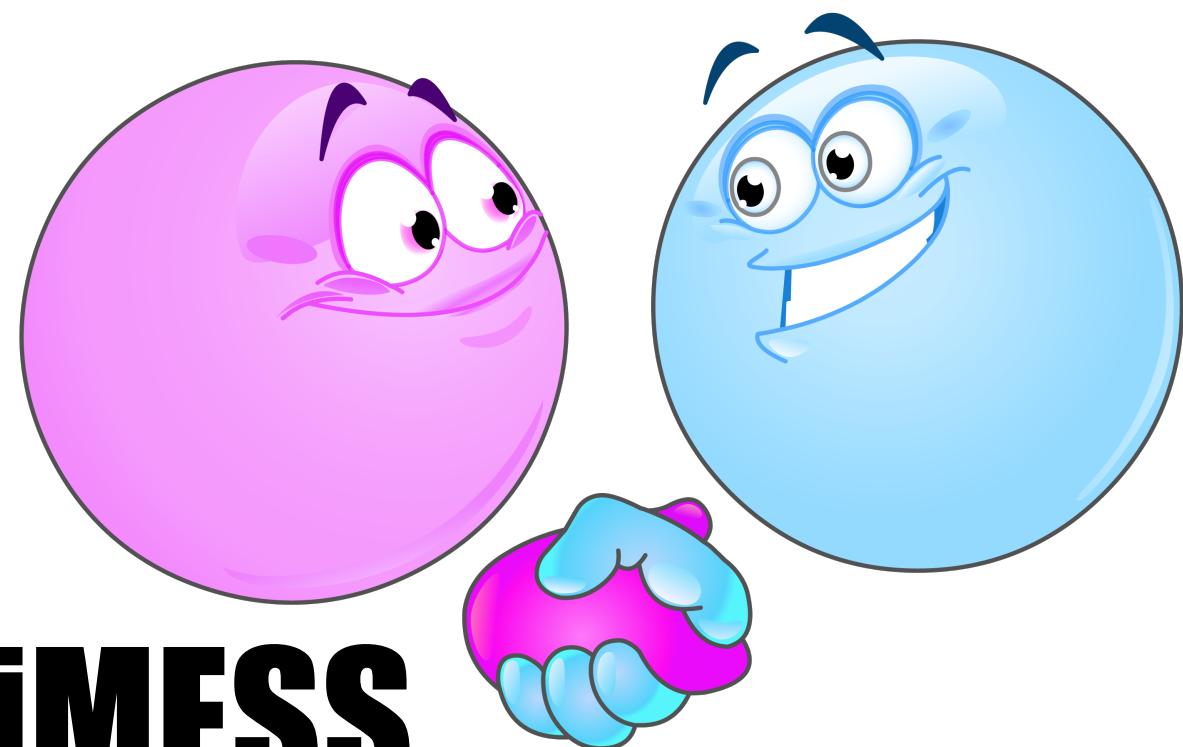
Agent-based modelling of the ECM



PhysiCell Hackathon
July 2021

Cicely Macnamara
 @CicelyKrystyna

March 7, 2023



PhysiMESS
a PhysiCell tool / add-on

PhysiMESS Team

PhysiMESS (MicroEnvironment Structures Simulator)



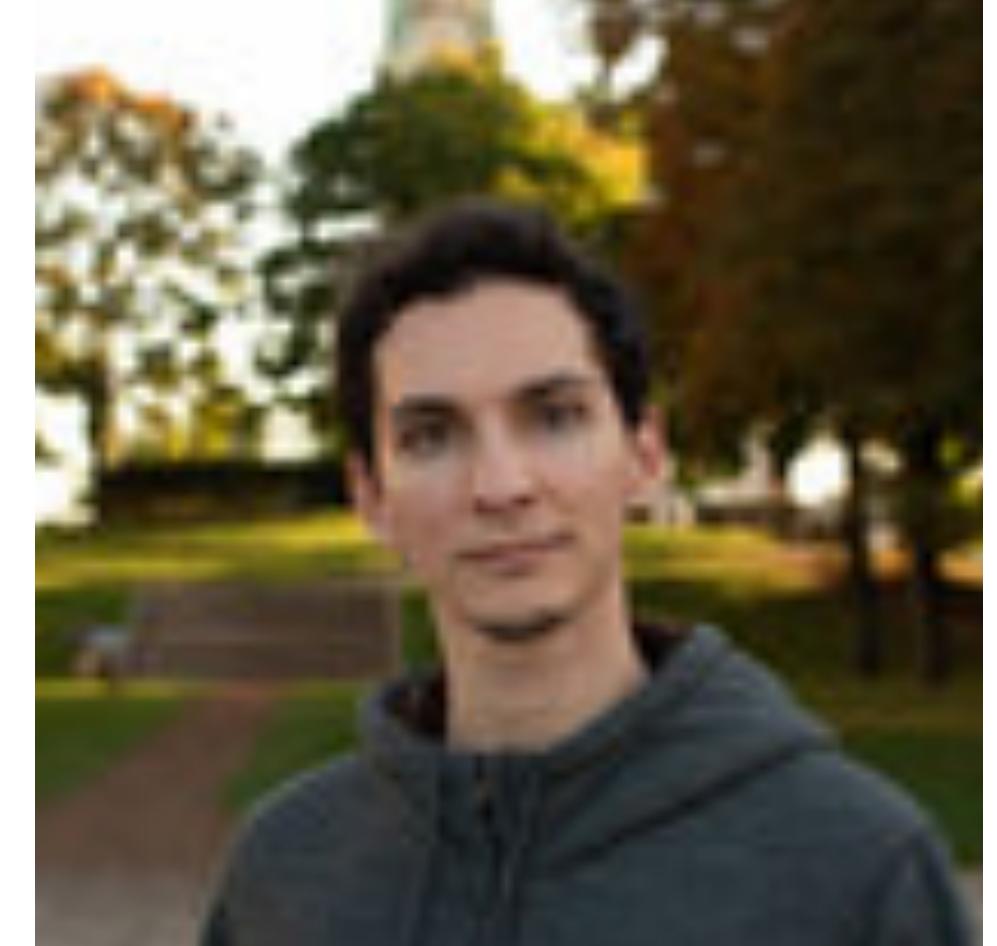
Dr Cicely Macnamara
University of Glasgow



Dr Robyn Shuttleworth
University of Saskatchewan



Dr Vincent Noël
Institut Curie

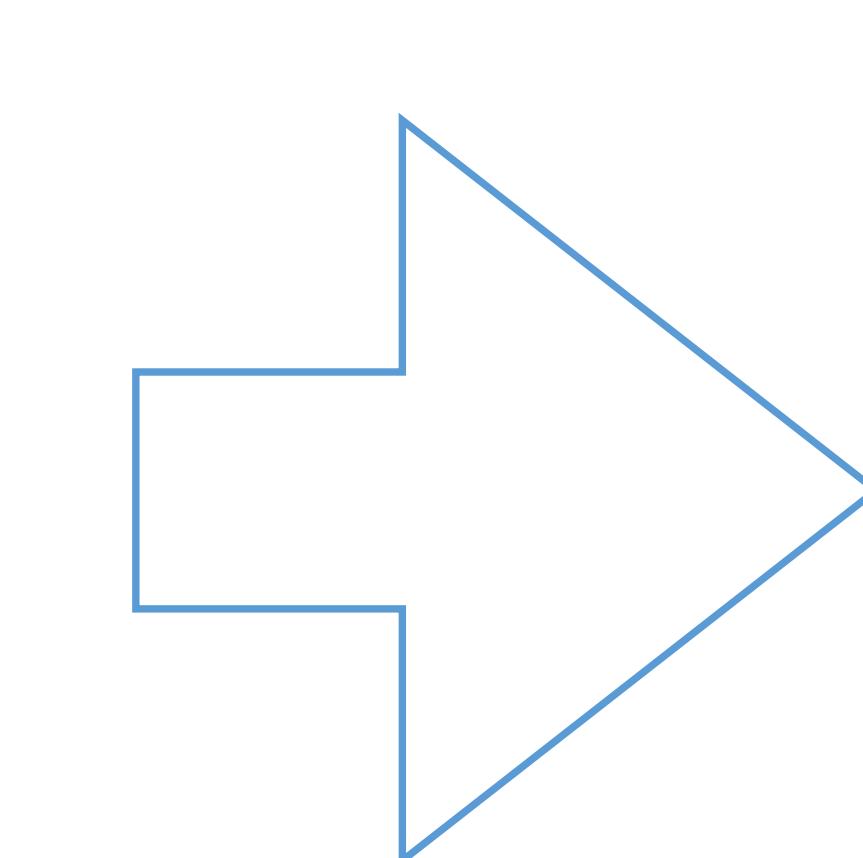
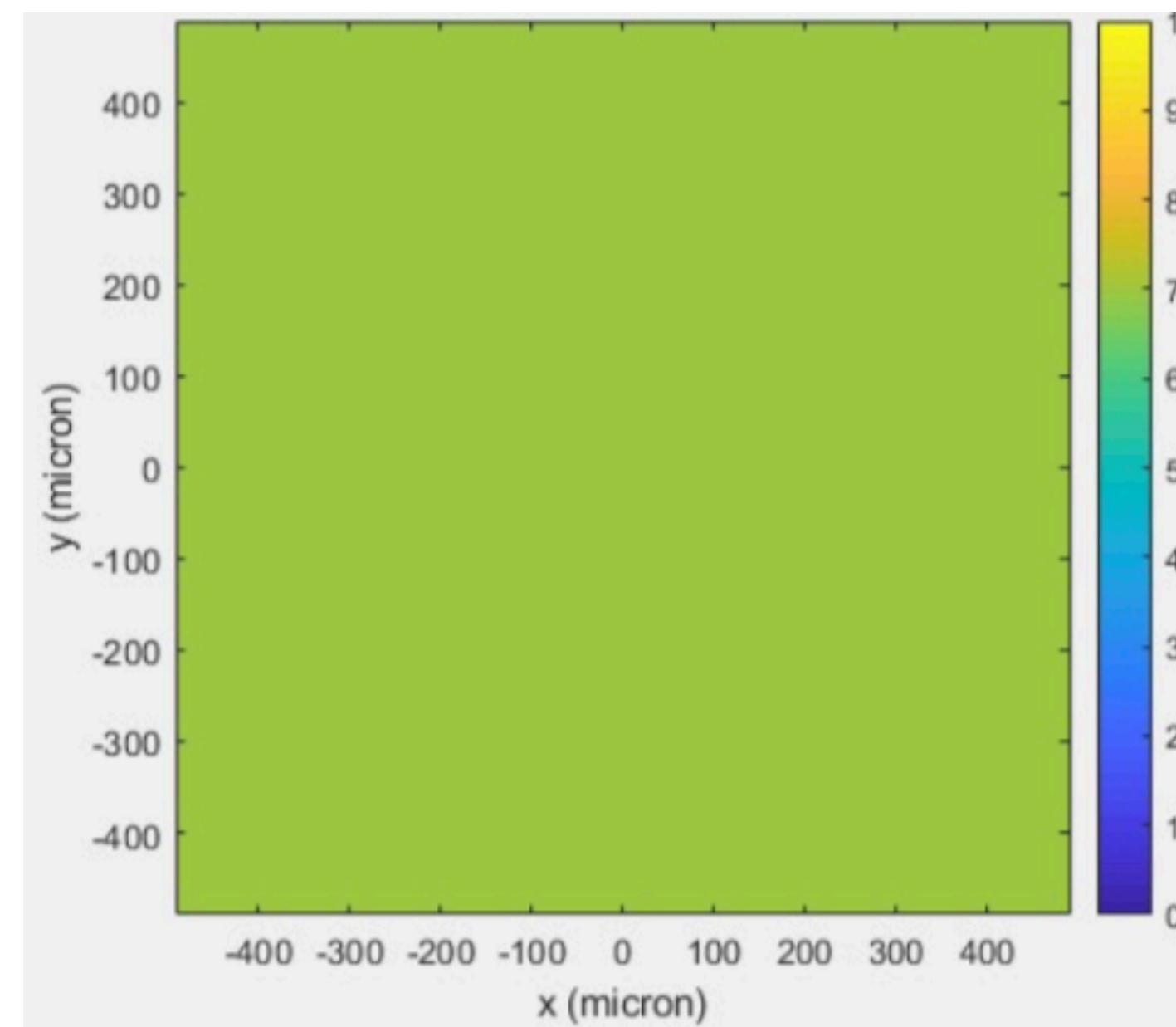


Marco Ruscone
Institut Curie

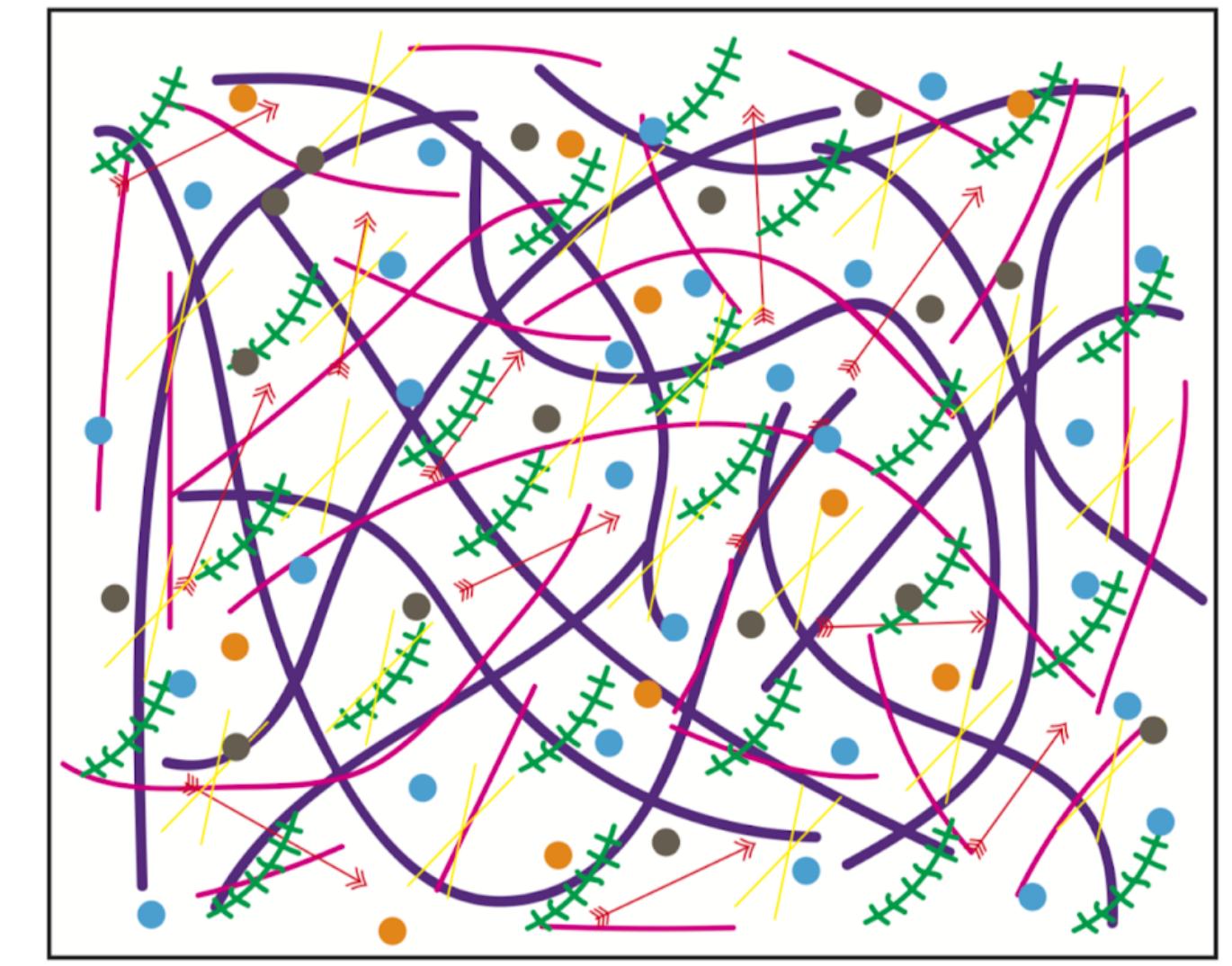
Team Members: Connah Johnson, Jamey O'Neill, Niki Tavakoli
John Metzcar, Zoe Bell, Temitope Benson, Joseph Abrams

Background: Scientific Question

Can we write a generalised framework to model realistic tissue microenvironments?



- Collagen Type I
- Collagen Type IV
- Fibronectin
- Elastin
- Laminin
- MMPs



Looking to a future where standard models of the ECM move away from a coarse grained continuum towards a fine grained agent-based approach

Design Goals: Features

- PhysiMESS **must**:
 - be able to create and model individual structures of the microenvironment
 - allow for interactions between cells, ECM structures and underlying components
 - be fully adaptable to allow for modelling of **any** biological system
 - **be user friendly!**
- Please note:
 - PhysiMESS was built originally built on PhysiCell v1.10.1
 - the cecam23 training repo was built on PhysiCell v1.10.4
 - some PhysiCell capabilities may not yet be supported.
 - PhysiMESS is as yet unpublished please use responsibly.

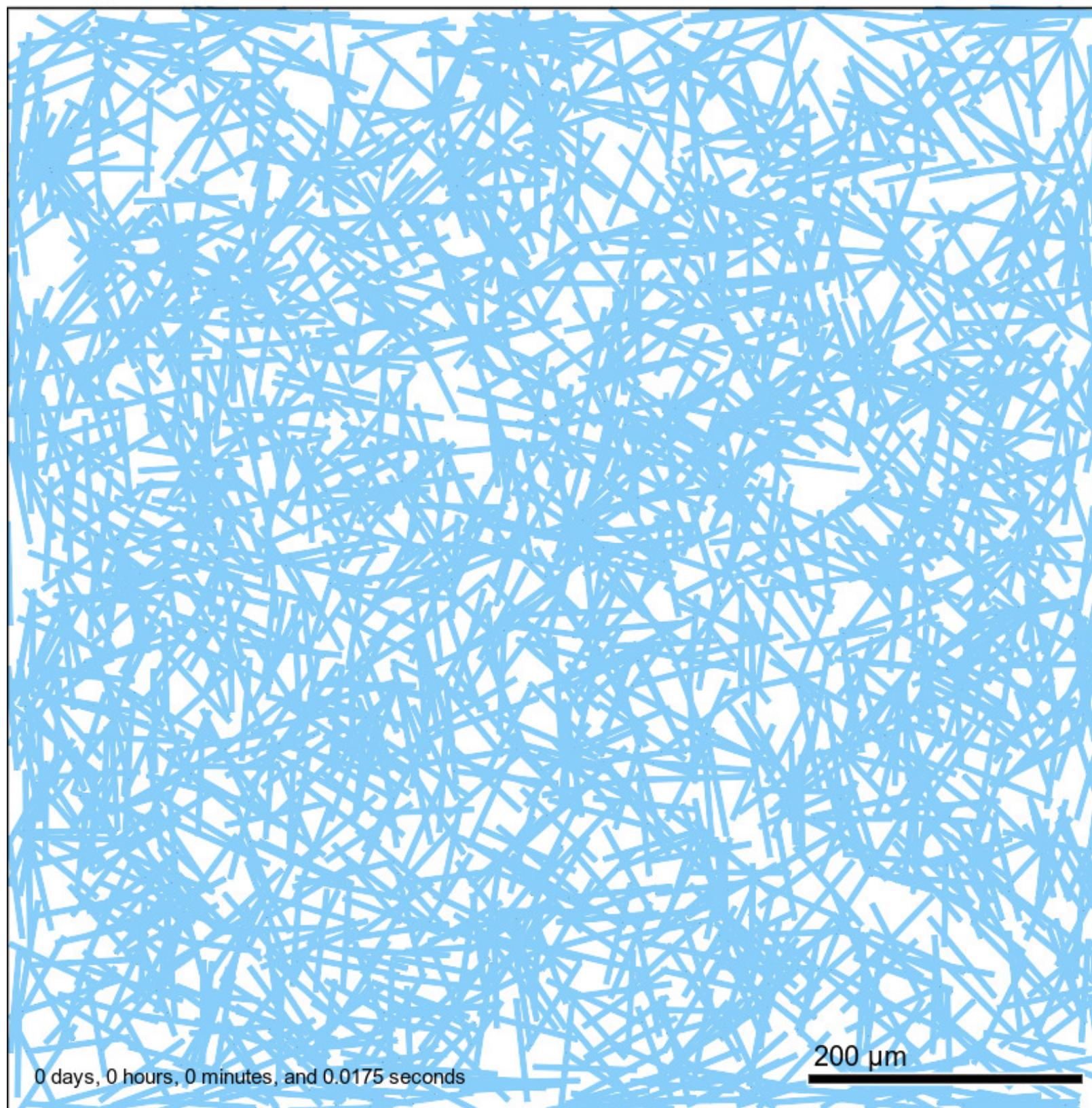
... what you did earlier

```
make clean; make
```

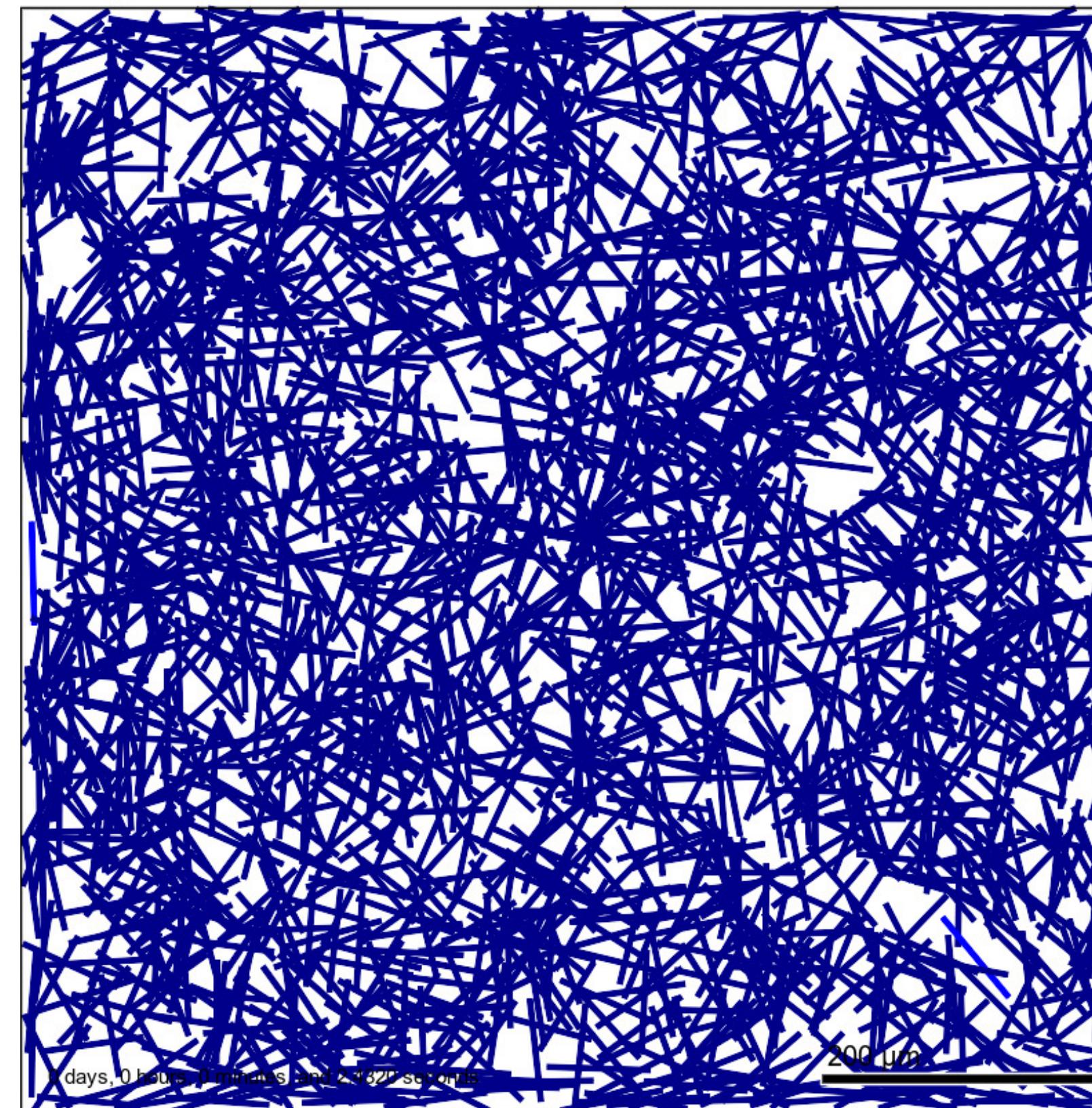
```
./project ./config/mymodel.xml
```

```
make jpeg
```

Current time: 0 days, 0 hours, and 0.00 minutes, z = 0.00 µm
1931 agents



Current time: 0 days, 0 hours, and 1.00 minutes, z = 0.00 µm
1931 agents



- This should create two files
snapshot00000000.jpg & snapshot00000001.jpg

Note: if you can't use the model builder GUI you can use the pre-loaded mymodel.xml file in the ./PhysiMESS/config directory.

- You're now ready to play with PhysiMESS!!!

Fibre Initialisation

Fibres are cylindrical **agents** given by their centre, radius (default 2 microns); length (default 75 microns) and orientation. They are visualised for the time being as thin rectangles in 2D.

Initialising fibres

in list [Code](#)

Description Edit

In [custom.cpp](#) in function [set_up_tissue](#)

custom.cpp

```
+void setup_tissue( void ){...}
```

Parameters

```
<number_of_fibres type="int" units="none" description="initial number of fibres (for each fibre type)">2000</number_of_fibres>
<anisotropic_fibres type="bool" units="none" description="flag for whether we want anisotropic fibres">false</anisotropic_fibres>
<fibre_length type="double" units="microns" description="length of fibres">75.0</fibre_length>
<length_normdist_sd type="double" units="microns" description="standard deviation of fibre length">0.0</length_normdist_sd>
<fibre_radius type="double" units="microns" description="radius of fibres">2.0</fibre_radius>
<fibre_angle type="double" units="radians" description="angle of fibre orientation">0.0</fibre_angle>
<angle_normdist_sd type="double" units="radians" description="standard deviation of fibre orientation angle">0.0</angle_normdist_sd>
```

Any of these agent names will signal for a cylindrical/rod-like agent

```
const auto agentname = std::string(pCD->name);
const auto ecm = std::string( s: "ecm");
const auto matrix = std::string( s: "matrix");
const auto fiber = std::string( s: "fiber");
const auto fibre = std::string( s: "fibre");
const auto rod = std::string( s: "rod");
```

```
(*all_cells)[i]->type_name == "fibre_vertical")
(*all_cells)[i]->type_name == "fibre_horizontal")
```

custom.cpp

```
+ void setup_tissue( void ){...}
```

```
// load cells from your CSV file (if enabled)
load_cells_from_pugixml();

// new fibre related parameters and bools
bool isFibreFromFile = false;
bool fibreanisotropy = parameters.bools("anisotropic_fibres");
double fibre_length = parameters.doubles("fibre_length");
double length_normdist_sd = parameters.doubles("length_normdist_sd");
double fibre_radius = parameters.doubles("fibre_radius");
double fibre_angle = parameters.doubles("fibre_angle");
double angle_normdist_sd = parameters.doubles("angle_normdist_sd");

for( int i=0; i < (*all_cells).size(); i++ ){

    // initialise the following parameters for all cells regardless of type
    (*all_cells)[i]->parameters.mCellVelocityMaximum = parameters.doubles("cell_velocity_max");
    (*all_cells)[i]->parameters.mVelocityAdhesion = parameters.doubles("vel_adhesion");
    (*all_cells)[i]->parameters.mVelocityContact = parameters.doubles("vel_contact");

    (*all_cells)[i]->parameters.fibreDegradationRate = parameters.doubles("fibre_deg_rate");
    (*all_cells)[i]->parameters.stuck_threshold = parameters.doubles("fibre_stuck");
    (*all_cells)[i]->parameters.fibre_degradation = parameters.bools("fibre_degradation");
    (*all_cells)[i]->parameters.fibre_pushing = parameters.bools("fibre_pushing");
    (*all_cells)[i]->parameters.fibre_rotation = parameters.bools("fibre_rotation");
    (*all_cells)[i]->parameters.mFibreStickiness = parameters.doubles("fibre_sticky");

    (*all_cells)[i]->state.crosslink_point.resize(3,0.0);
}
```

```
const auto agentname = std::string((*all_cells)[i]->type_name);
const auto ecm = std::string( s: "ecm");
const auto matrix = std::string( s: "matrix");
const auto fiber = std::string( s: "fiber");
const auto fibre = std::string( s: "fibre");
const auto rod = std::string( s: "rod");

if (agentname.find(ecm) != std::string::npos ||
    agentname.find(matrix) != std::string::npos ||
    agentname.find(fiber) != std::string::npos ||
    agentname.find(fibre) != std::string::npos ||
    agentname.find(rod) != std::string::npos) {
    /* fibre positions are given by csv
       assign fibre orientation and test whether out of bounds */
    isFibreFromFile = true;

    (*all_cells)[i]->parameters.mLength = NormalRandom(fibre_length, length_normdist_sd) / 2.0;
    (*all_cells)[i]->parameters.mRadius = fibre_radius;

    //assign fibre orientation as a random vector from points on unit sphere/circle
    (*all_cells)[i]->assign_orientation();

    // start and end points of a fibre are calculated from fibre center
    double xs = (*all_cells)[i]->position[0] -
                (*all_cells)[i]->parameters.mLength * (*all_cells)[i]->state.orientation[0];
    double xe = (*all_cells)[i]->position[0] +
                (*all_cells)[i]->parameters.mLength * (*all_cells)[i]->state.orientation[0];
    double ys = (*all_cells)[i]->position[1] -
                (*all_cells)[i]->parameters.mLength * (*all_cells)[i]->state.orientation[1];
    double ye = (*all_cells)[i]->position[1] +
                (*all_cells)[i]->parameters.mLength * (*all_cells)[i]->state.orientation[1];

    // relabel so that the rest of the code works
    (*all_cells)[i]->type_name = "fibre";
```

Visualising fibres using the SVG

in list [Code](#) 

Description [Edit](#)

In **PhysiCell_pathology.cpp** in function [SVG_plot](#)

Fibres are visualised as thin rectangles rather than spheres. We plot fibres in different colours depending on the number of crosslinks.

In **PhysiCell_pathology.cpp** in function [create_plot_legend](#)

Fibre rods are added to the plot legend.

```
// place a rod if it's a fibre (note fibre not yet renamed)
const auto agentname = std::string(C.type_name);
const auto ecm = std::string(s: "ecm");
const auto matrix = std::string( s: "matrix");
const auto fiber = std::string( s: "fiber");
const auto fibre = std::string( s: "fibre");
const auto rod = std::string( s: "rod");

if (agentname.find(ecm) != std::string::npos ||
    agentname.find(matrix) != std::string::npos ||
    agentname.find(fiber) != std::string::npos ||
    agentname.find(fibre) != std::string::npos ||
    agentname.find(rod) != std::string::npos) {
    //Write_SVG_fibre(os, cursor_x, cursor_y , 0.5*temp_cell_radius , 1.0 , colors[1] , colors[0] );
    Write_SVG_line( & os, cursor_x, start_y: cursor_y-20.0 , cursor_x , end_y: cursor_y+20.0 , thickness: 4.0 , stroke_color: "lightskyblue" );
}
else {
    // place a big circle with cytoplasm colors
    Write_SVG_circle( & os, cursor_x, cursor_y, temp_cell_radius, stroke_size: 1.0, stroke_color: colors[1], fill_color: colors[0]);
    // place a small circle with nuclear colors
    //Write_SVG_circle(os, cursor_x, cursor_y, 0.5 * temp_cell_radius, 1.0, colors[2], colors[3]);
}
```

```
// place a rod if it's a fibre (note fibre already renamed here)
const auto agentname = std::string(pC->type_name);
const auto fibre = std::string( s: "fibre");

if (agentname.find(fibre) != std::string::npos ){

    int crosslinks = pC->parameters.X_crosslink_count;
    if (crosslinks >= 3){

        // if fibre has cross-links different colour than if not
        Write_SVG_line( & os, start_x: (pC->position)[0] - (pC->parameters.mLength) * (pC->state.orientation)[0] - X_lower,
                        start_y: (pC->position)[1] - (pC->parameters.mLength) * (pC->state.orientation)[1] - Y_lower,
                        end_x: (pC->position)[0] + (pC->parameters.mLength) * (pC->state.orientation)[0] - X_lower,
                        end_y: (pC->position)[1] + (pC->parameters.mLength) * (pC->state.orientation)[1] - Y_lower,
                        thickness: 4.0, stroke_color: "darkblue");

        // if not
        (pC->parameters.mLength) * (pC->state.orientation)[0] - X_lower,
        parameters.mLength) * (pC->state.orientation)[1] - Y_lower,
        parameters.mLength) * (pC->state.orientation)[0] - X_lower,
        parameters.mLength) * (pC->state.orientation)[1] - Y_lower,
    }
}
```



cell



ecm



attractant

Last login: Wed Feb 22 11:16:02 on ttys002
(base) ~ cd Desktop/PhysiMESS
(base) PhysiMESS [code_development] ⚡

```

        cryption="">0</random_seed>
        i="initial number of cells (for each cell type)">0</number_of_cells>
        n="initial number of fibres (for each fibre type)">2000</number_of_fibres>
        tion="flag for whether we want anisotropic fibres">false</anisotropic_fibres>
        ion="length of fibres">75.0</fibre_length>
        description="standard deviation of fibre length">0.0</length_normdist_sd>
        ion="radius of fibres">2.0</fibre_radius>
        on="angle of fibre orientation">0.0</fibre_angle>
        escription="standard deviation of fibre orientation angle">0.0</angle_normdist_sd>
        tion="flag for fibre degradation">false</fibre_degradation>
        tion="fibre degradation rate">0.01</fibre_deg_rate>
        ="time before stuck cell can degrade fibre">10.0</fibre_stuck>
        ="flag for fibre pushing">false</fibre_pushing>
        ="measure of how easy it is to move a fibre">1.0</fibre_sticky>
        :"flag for fibre rotation">false</fibre_rotation>
        ell velocity parallel to fibre">0.6</vel_adhesion>
        :velocity orthogonal to fibre">0.1</vel_contact>
        n="max cell velocity">1.0</cell_velocity_max>

```

output

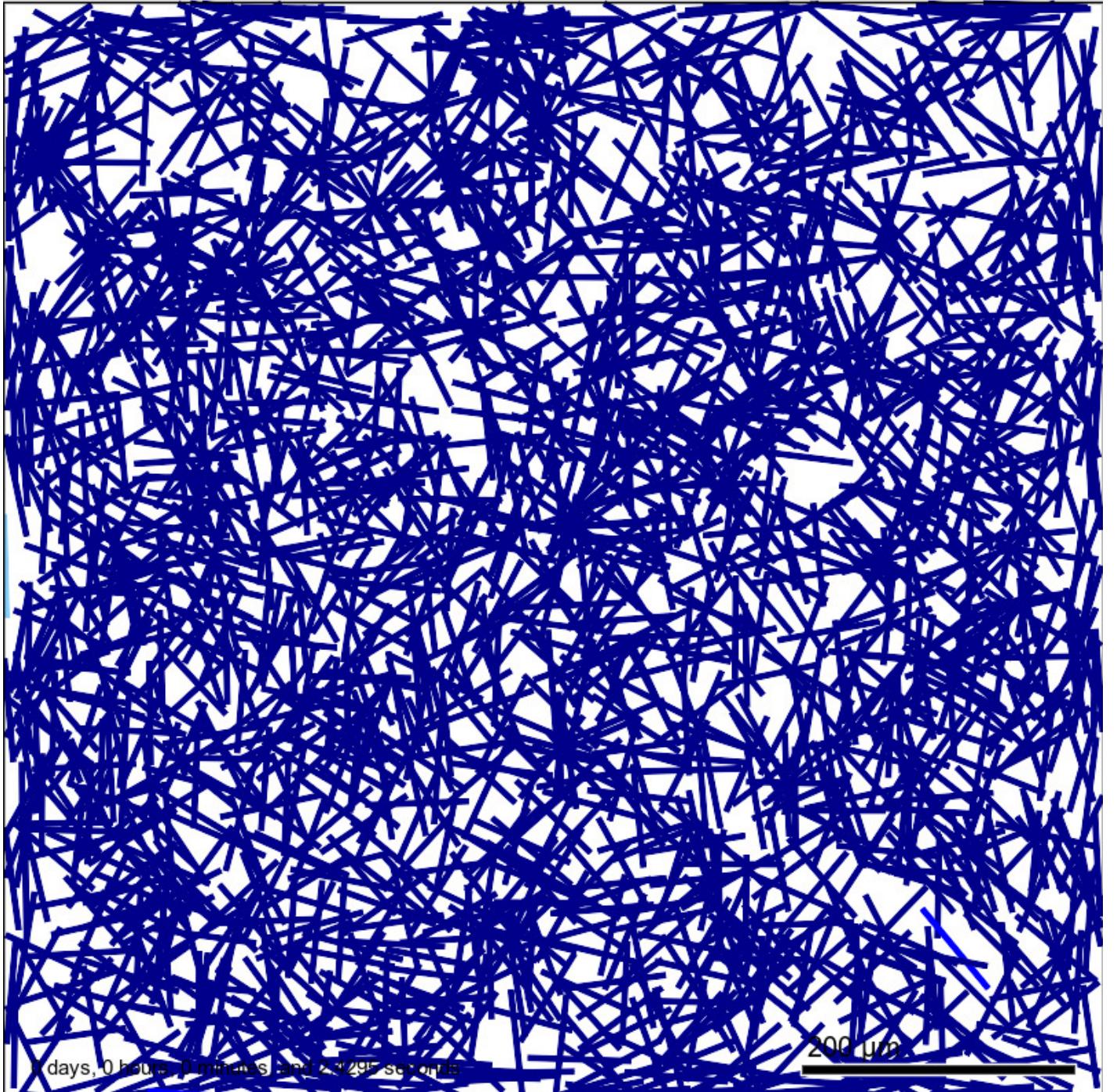
Name	Date Modified	Size
empty.txt	Today at 11:20	Zero

Fibre Initialisation

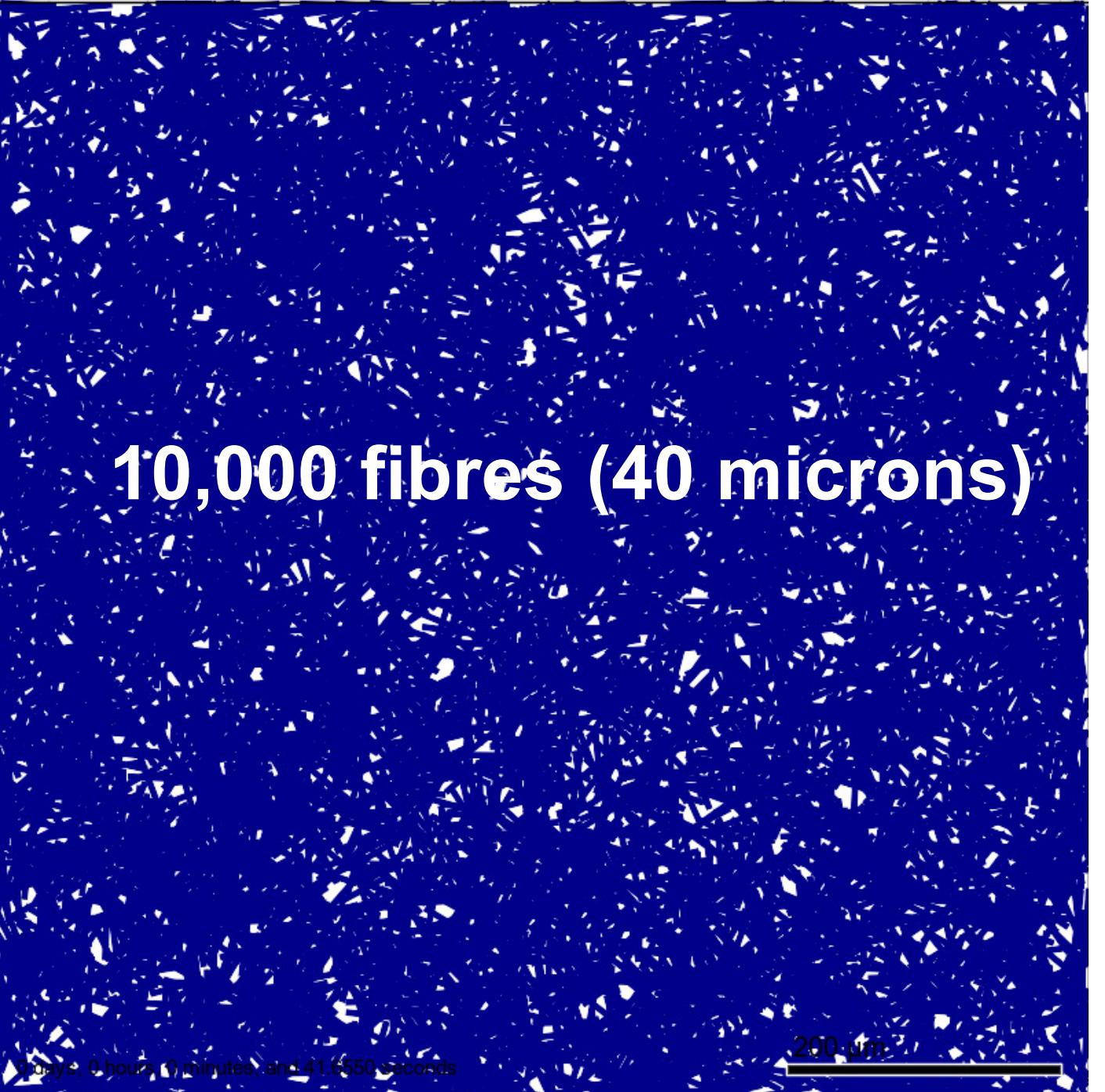
Parameters

```
<number_of_fibres type="int" units="none" description="initial number of fibres (for each fibre type)">2000</number_of_fibres>
<anisotropic_fibres type="bool" units="none" description="flag for whether we want anisotropic fibres">false</anisotropic_fibres>
<fibre_length type="double" units="microns" description="length of fibres">75.0</fibre_length>
<length_normdist_sd type="double" units="microns" description="standard deviation of fibre length">0.0</length_normdist_sd>
<fibre_radius type="double" units="microns" description="radius of fibres">2.0</fibre_radius>
<fibre_angle type="double" units="radians" description="angle of fibre orientation">0.0</fibre_angle>
<angle_normdist_sd type="double" units="radians" description="standard deviation of fibre orientation angle">0.0</angle_normdist_sd>
```

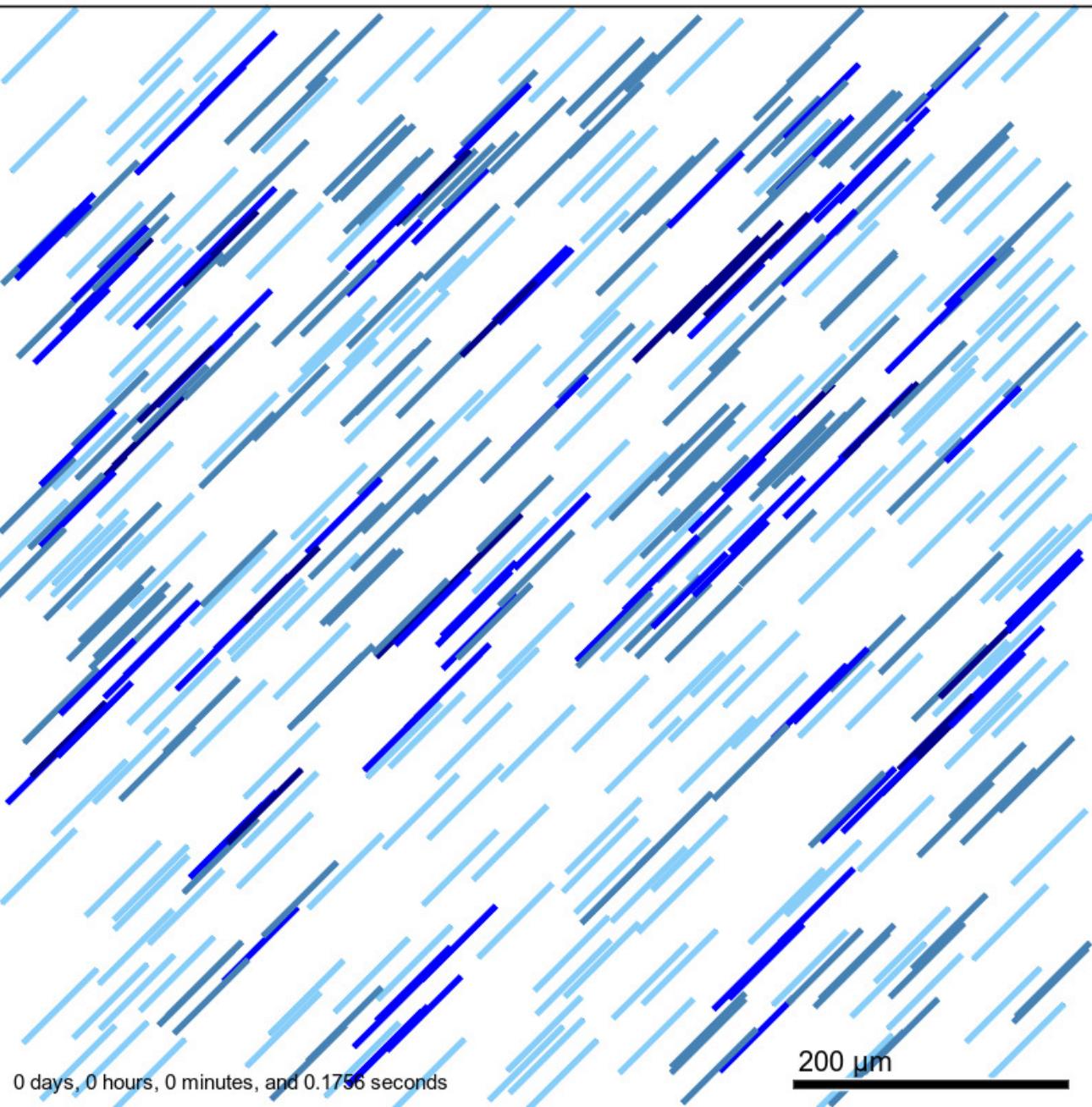
Current time: 0 days, 0 hours, and 1.00 minutes, z = 0.00 μm
1931 agents



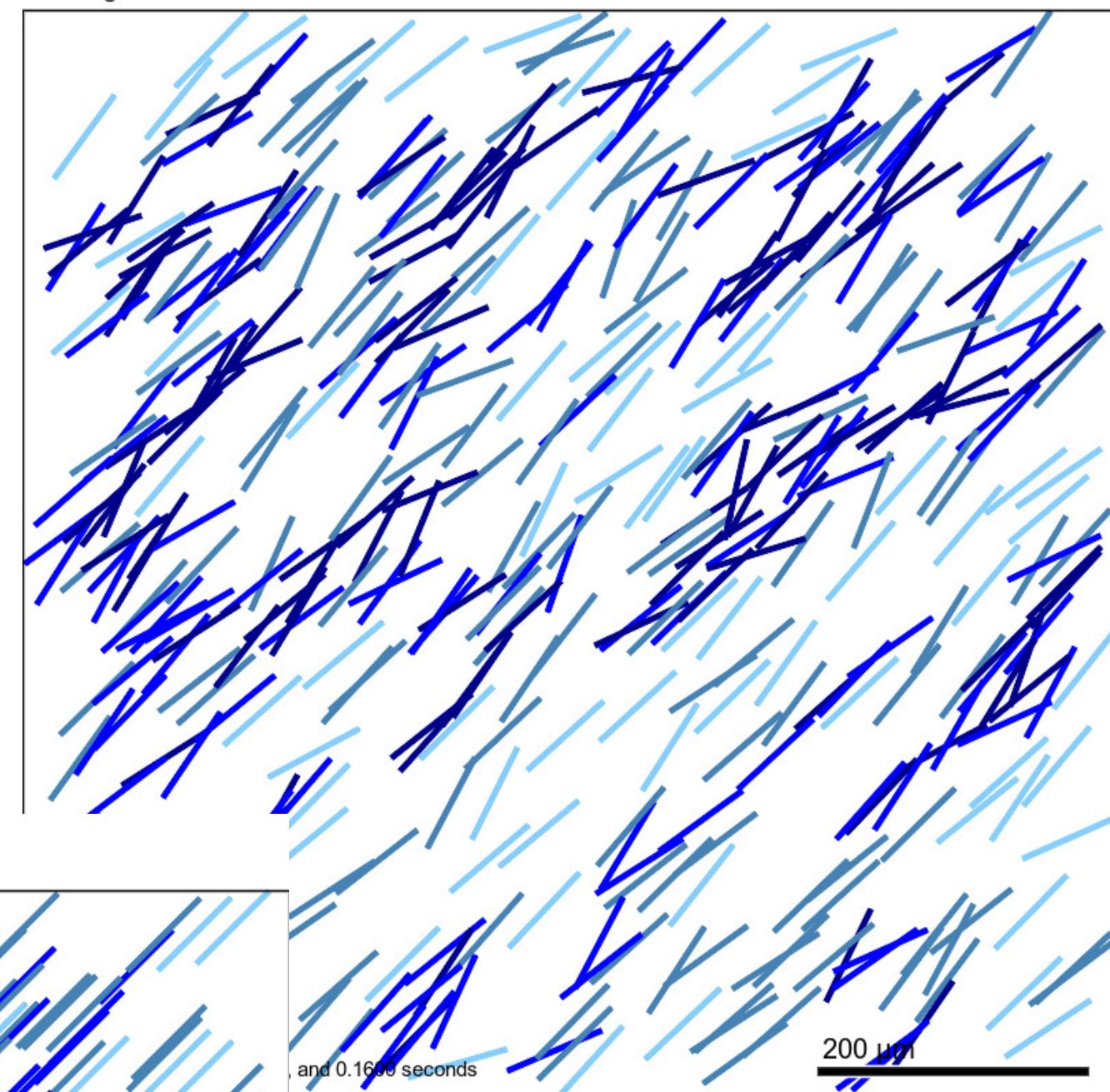
Current time: 0 days, 0 hours, and 1.00 minutes, z = 0.00 μm
9849 agents



Current time: 0 days, 0 hours, and 1.00 minutes, z = 0.00 μm
429 agents



Current time: 0 days, 0 hours, and 1.00 minutes, z = 0.00 μm
430 agents



with variance
of 0.2 radians

anisotropic

500 fibres
(0.785 radians
orientation)

PhysiMESS — staff@2021-Air — ..top/PhysiMESS —

```

ysiCell_signal_behavior.cpp
g++-11 -march=native -O3 -fomit-frame-pointer -fopenmp
/PhysiCell_SVG.cpp
g++-11 -march=native -O3 -fomit-frame-pointer -fopenmp
/PhysiCell_pathology.cpp
g++-11 -march=native -O3 -fomit-frame-pointer -fopenmp
/PhysiCell_MultiCellDS.cpp
g++-11 -march=native -O3 -fomit-frame-pointer -fopenmp
/PhysiCell_various_outputs.cpp
g++-11 -march=native -O3 -fomit-frame-pointer -fopenmp
/PhysiCell_pugixml.cpp
g++-11 -march=native -O3 -fomit-frame-pointer -fopenmp
/PhysiCell_settings.cpp
g++-11 -march=native -O3 -fomit-frame-pointer -fopenmp
/PhysiCell_geometry.cpp
g++-11 -march=native -O3 -fomit-frame-pointer -fopenmp
modules/custom.cpp
g++-11 -march=native -O3 -fomit-frame-pointer -fopenmp
ioFVM_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_containe
r.o pugixml.o PhysiCell_phenotype.o PhysiCell_cell_container.o PhysiCell_standard_m
odels.o PhysiCell_cell.o PhysiCell_custom.o PhysiCell_utilities.o PhysiCell_constants
.o PhysiCell_basic_signaling.o PhysiCell_signal_behavior.o PhysiCell_SVG.o PhysiCell_
pathology.o PhysiCell_MultiCellDS.o PhysiCell_various_outputs.o PhysiCell_pugixml.o
PhysiCell_settings.o PhysiCell_geometry.o custom.o main.cpp
make name
grep: VERSION.txt: No such file or directory

Executable name is project

(base) ▲ PhysiMESS [code_development] ⚡ ./project ./config/mymodel.xml -> ./output]
/output.txt
(base) ▲ PhysiMESS [code_development] ⚡ make jpeg
grep: VERSION.txt: No such file or directory
rm -f __H*.txt __W*.txt __resize.txt
(base) ▲ PhysiMESS [code_development] ⚡

```

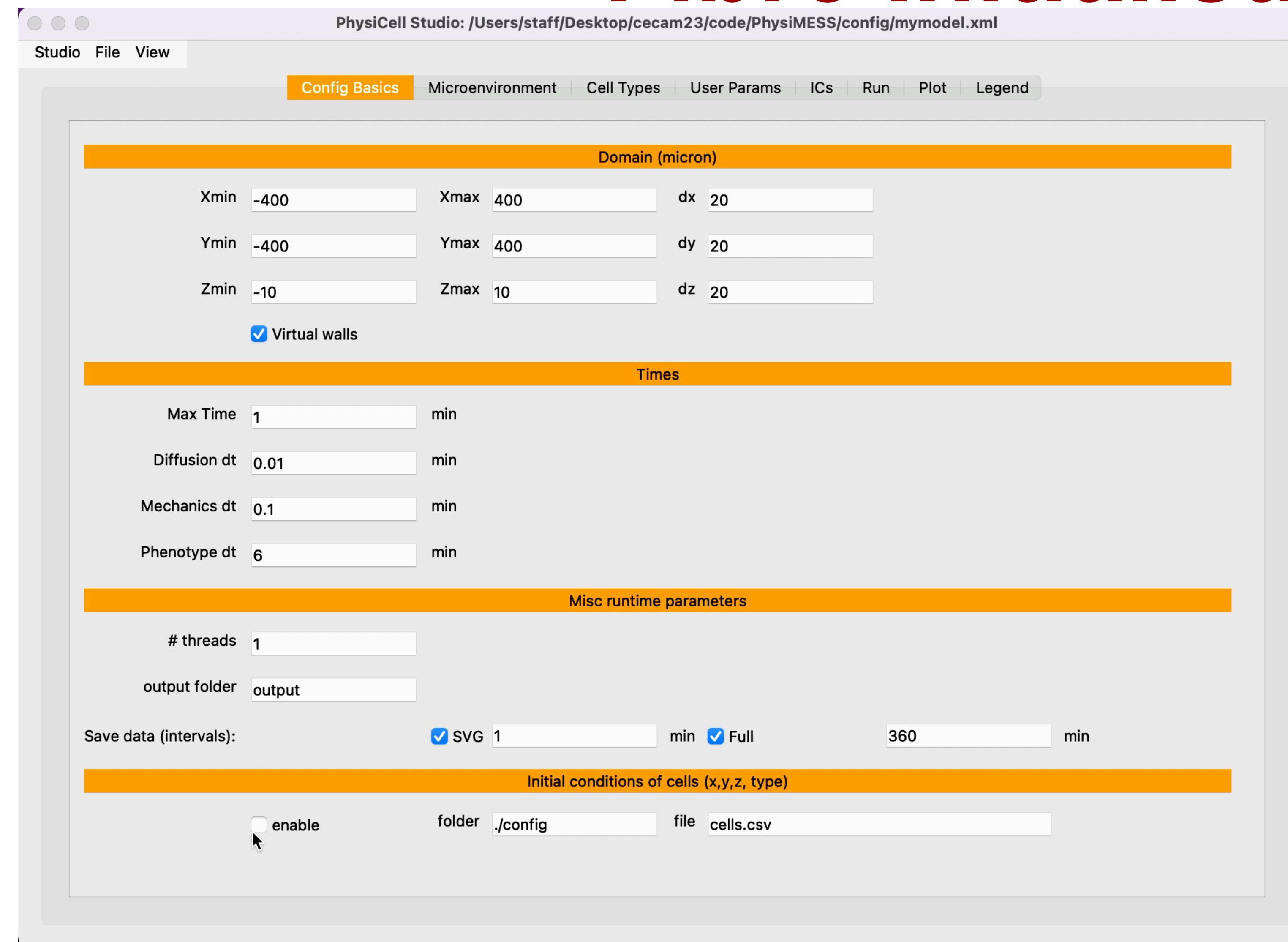
mymodel.xml

Typeset LaTeX Macros Tags Labels Templates

359 </cell_positions>
360 </initial_conditions>
361
362 <user_parameters>
363 <random_seed type="int" units="dimensionless" description="">0</random_seed>
364 <number_of_cells type="int" units="none" description="initial number of cells (for each cell type)">0</number_of_cells>
365 <number_of_fibres type="int" units="none" description="initial number of fibres (for each fibre type)">2000</number_of_fibres>
366 <anisotropic_fibres type="bool" units="none" description="flag for whether we want anisotropic fibres">false</anisotropic_fibres>
367 <fibre_length type="double" units="microns" description="length of fibres">75.0</fibre_length>
368 <length_normdist_sd type="double" units="microns" description="standard deviation of fibre length">0.0</length_normdist_sd>
369 <fibre_radius type="double" units="microns" description="radius of fibres">2.0</fibre_radius>
370 <fibre_angle type="double" units="radians" description="angle of fibre orientation">0.0</fibre_angle>
371 <angle_normdist_sd type="double" units="radians" description="standard deviation of fibre orientation angle">0.0</angle_normdist_sd>
372 <fibre_degradation type="bool" units="none" description="flag for fibre degradation">false</fibre_degradation>
373 <fibre_deg_rate type="double" units="1/min" description="fibre degradation rate">0.01</fibre_deg_rate>
374 <fibre_stuck type="double" units="1/min" description="time before stuck cell can degrade fibre">10.0</fibre_stuck>
375 <fibre_pushing type="bool" units="none" description="flag for fibre pushing">false</fibre_pushing>
376 <fibre_sticky type="double" units="none" description="measure of how easy it is to move a fibre">1.0</fibre_sticky>
377 <fibre_rotation type="bool" units="none" description="flag for fibre rotation">false</fibre_rotation>
378 <vel_adhesion type="double" units="" description="cell velocity parallel to fibre">0.6</vel_adhesion>
379 <vel_contact type="double" units="" description="cell velocity orthogonal to fibre">0.1</vel_contact>
380 <cell_velocity_max type="double" units="" description="max cell velocity">1.0</cell_velocity_max>
381 </user_parameters>
382
383 </PhysiCell_settings>

output

Name	Date Modified	Size
snapshot00000001.jpg	Today at 11:23	
snapshot00000000.jpg	Today at 11:23	
output.txt	Today at 11:23	
final.svg	Today at 11:23	
final.xml	Today at 11:23	
final_cells_physicell.mat	Today at 11:23	
final_cells.mat	Today at 11:23	
final_microenvironment0.mat	Today at 11:23	
snapshot00000001.svg	Today at 11:23	
snapshot00000000.svg	Today at 11:23	
output00000000.xml	Today at 11:23	
output0000...physicell.mat	Today at 11:23	
output0000...00_cells.mat	Today at 11:23	
output0000...nment0.mat	Today at 11:23	
legend.svg	Today at 11:23	
initial.svg	Today at 11:23	
initial.xml	Today at 11:23	



Fibre Initialisation

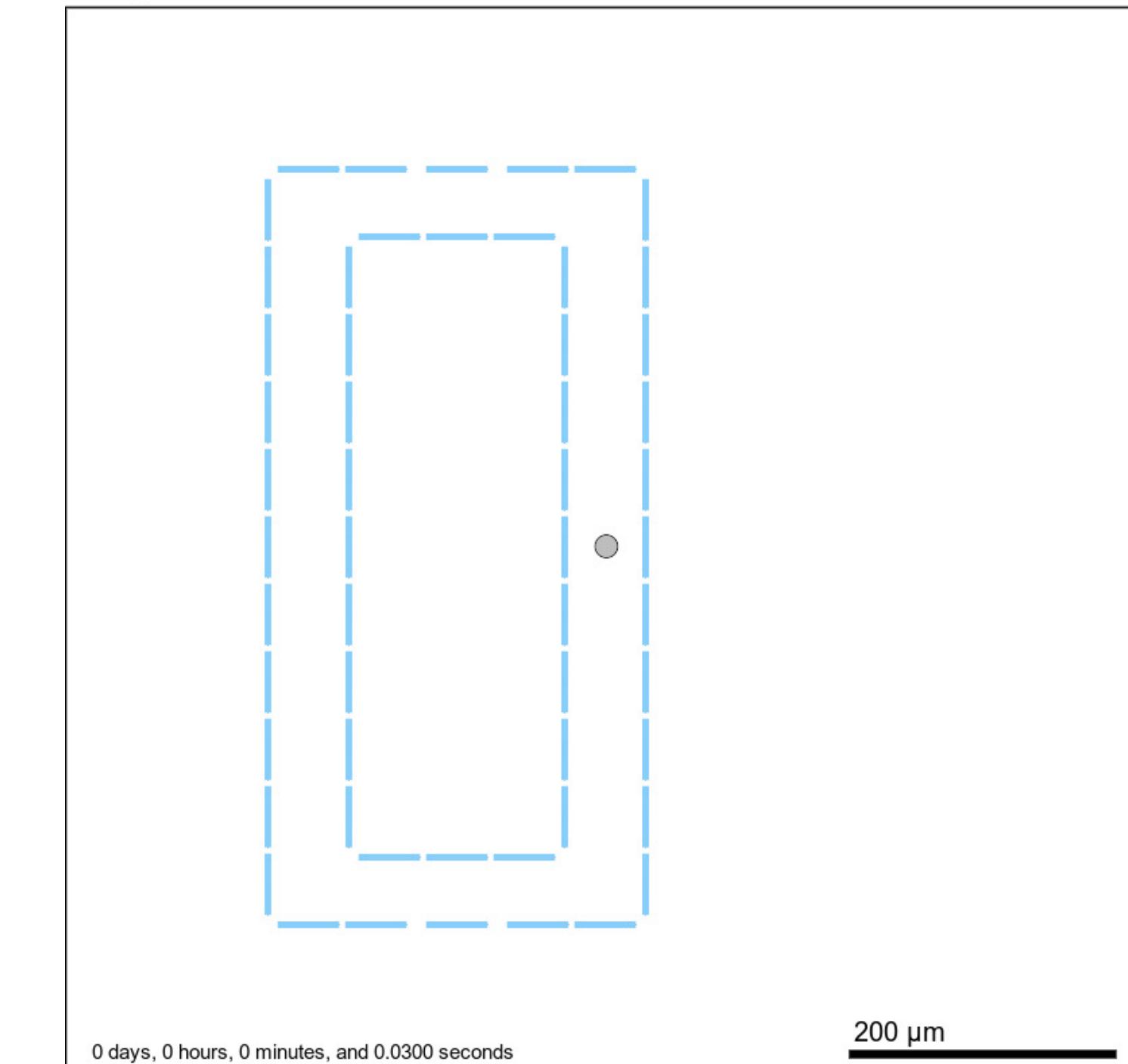
enable csv input

```
<cell_positions type="csv" enabled="true">
<folder>./config/Fibre_Initialisation</folder>
<filename>initialfibres.csv</filename>
```

```
<cell_definition name="fibre_horizontal" ID="2">
```

Anisotropic 1.57 radians 40 microns

Current time: 0 days, 0 hours, and 1.00 minutes, z = 0.00 µm
57 agents



Cell-Fibre Mechanics

The potential function

in list [Code](#)

Description [Edit](#)

In [PhysiCell_cell.cpp](#) in function [add_potential](#)

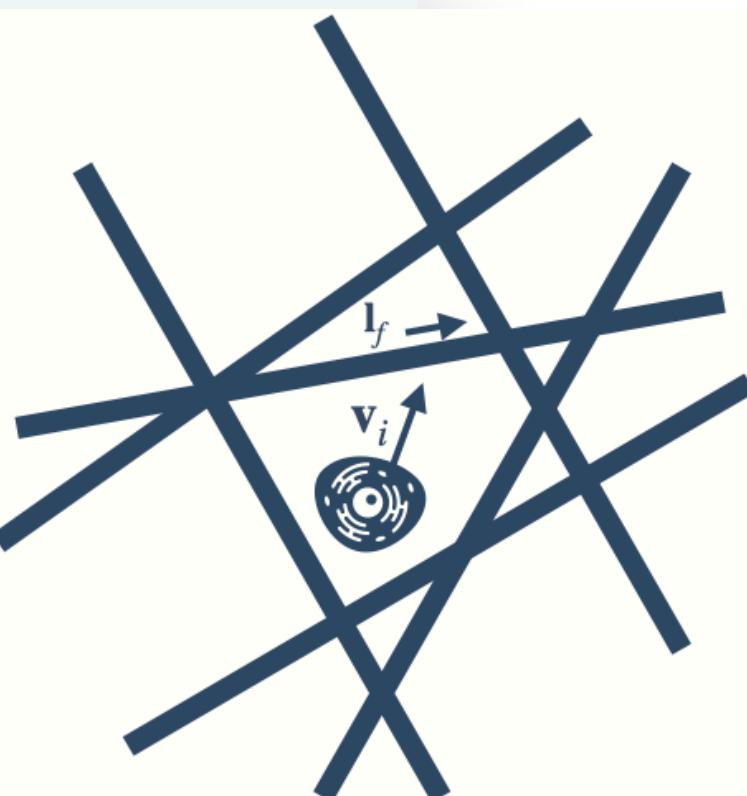
There will be four different types of interaction:

cell-cell as per PhysiCell see [\(1\) Cell-Cell Interactions](#)

cell-fibre as per [@cicelykrystyna](#) code see [\(2\) Cell-Fibre Interactions](#)

fibre-cell will be a similar repulsion to cell-cell in which a cell pushes a fibre out of its way see [\(3\) Fibre-Cell Interactions](#)

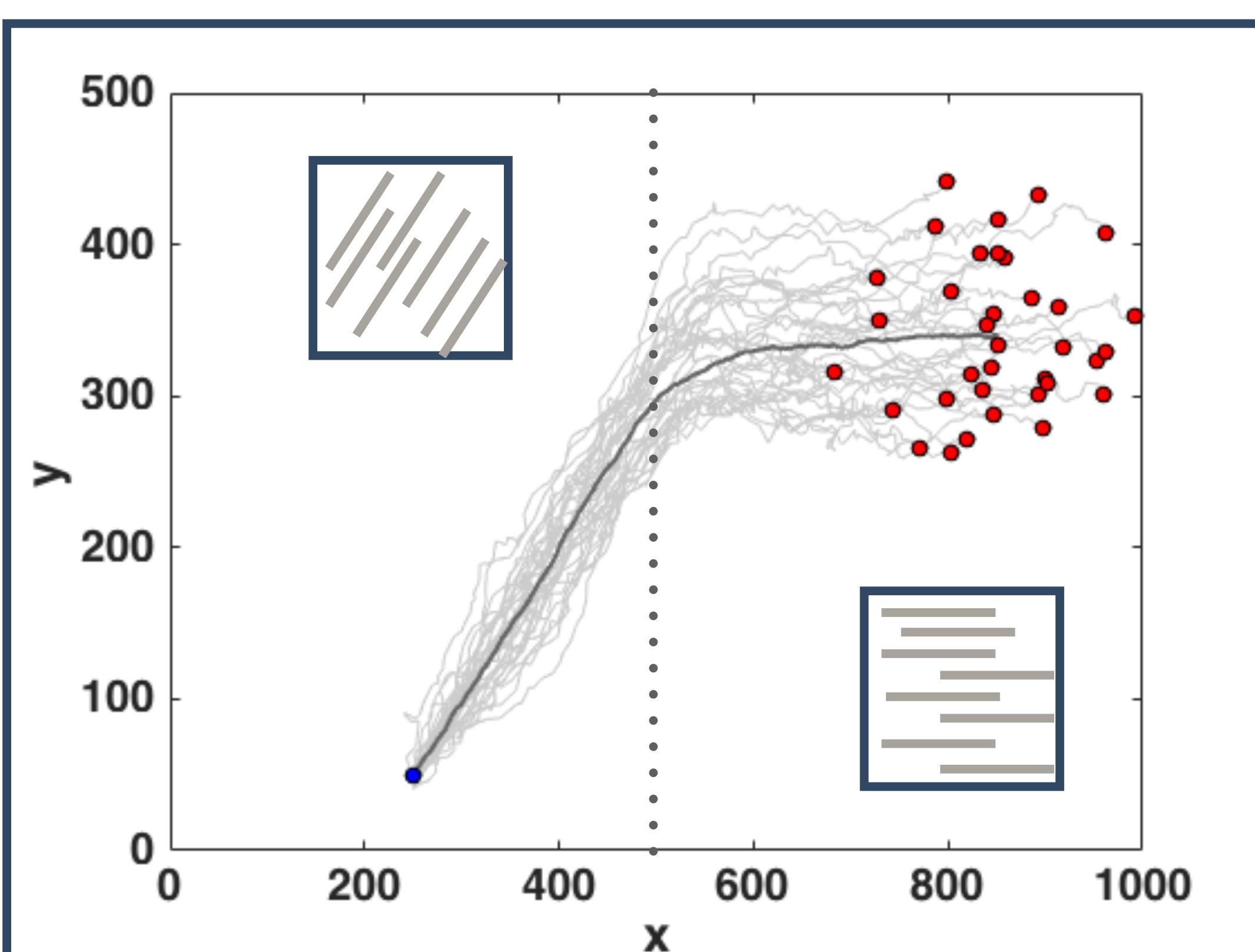
fibre-fibre currently NULL see [\(4\) Fibre-Fibre Interactions](#)



$$\mathbf{F}_{if} = \alpha_{\text{fibre}} \left(1 - \frac{\|\mathbf{v}_i\|}{v_{\max}} \right) \left(\frac{|\mathbf{v}_i \cdot \mathbf{l}_f|}{\|\mathbf{v}_i\|} \right) \mathbf{l}_f - \beta_{\text{fibre}} \left(1 - \frac{|\mathbf{v}_i \cdot \mathbf{l}_f|^2}{\|\mathbf{v}_i\|^2} \right) \mathbf{v}_i$$

```
void Cell::add_potentials(Cell* other_agent) {...}
```

```
// two non-fibre agents e.g. cell-cell interacting - as per PhysiCell
if (this->type_name != "fibre" && (*other_agent).type_name != "fibre") {...}
// cell-type agent interacting with a fibre-type agent
else if (this->type_name != "fibre" && (*other_agent).type_name == "fibre") {...}
// fibre-type agent interacting with a cell-type agent
else if (this->type_name == "fibre" && (*other_agent).type_name != "fibre") {...}
// fibre interacting with a fibre
else if (this->type_name == "fibre" && (*other_agent).type_name == "fibre") {...}
```



```

double fibre_adhesion = 0;
double fibre_repulsion = 0;
if (distance < max_interactive_distance) {
    double cell_velocity_dot_fibre_direction = 0.;

    for (unsigned int j = 0; j < 3; j++) {
        cell_velocity_dot_fibre_direction += (*other_agent).state.orientation[j] * previous_velocity[j];
    }

    double cell_velocity = 0;
    for (unsigned int j = 0; j < velocity.size(); j++) {
        cell_velocity += previous_velocity[j] * previous_velocity[j];
    }

    cell_velocity = std::max(sqrt(cell_velocity), 1e-8);

    double p_exponent = 1.0;
    double q_exponent = 1.0;

    double xi = fabs(cell_velocity_dot_fibre_direction) / (cell_velocity);
    double xip = pow(xi, p_exponent);
    double xiq = pow((1 - xi * xi), q_exponent);
}

```

```

<vel_adhesion type="double" units="" description="cell velocity parallel to fibre">0.6</vel_adhesion>
<vel_contact type="double" units="" description="cell velocity orthogonal to fibre">0.1</vel_contact>
<cell_velocity_max type="double" units="" description="max cell velocity">1.0</cell_velocity_max>

```

PhysiCell.cpp

```

void Cell::update_position( double dt ) {...}

    double movement_threshold = 0.05;
    if (this->type_name != "fibre" && phenotype.motility.is_motile) {
        if (dist( p1: old_position, p2: position) < movement_threshold) {
            this->parameters.stuck_counter++;
        } else {
            this->parameters.stuck_counter = 0;
        }
    }
}

```

PhysiCell_standard_models.cpp

```

fibre_adhesion = (*other_agent).parameters.mVelocityAdhesion * xip *
    (1 - cell_velocity / this->parameters.mCellVelocityMaximum);

fibre_repulsion = (*other_agent).parameters.mVelocityContact * xiq;

axpy(&velocity, & fibre_adhesion, & (*other_agent).state.orientation);
naxpy(&velocity, & fibre_repulsion, & previous_velocity);

```

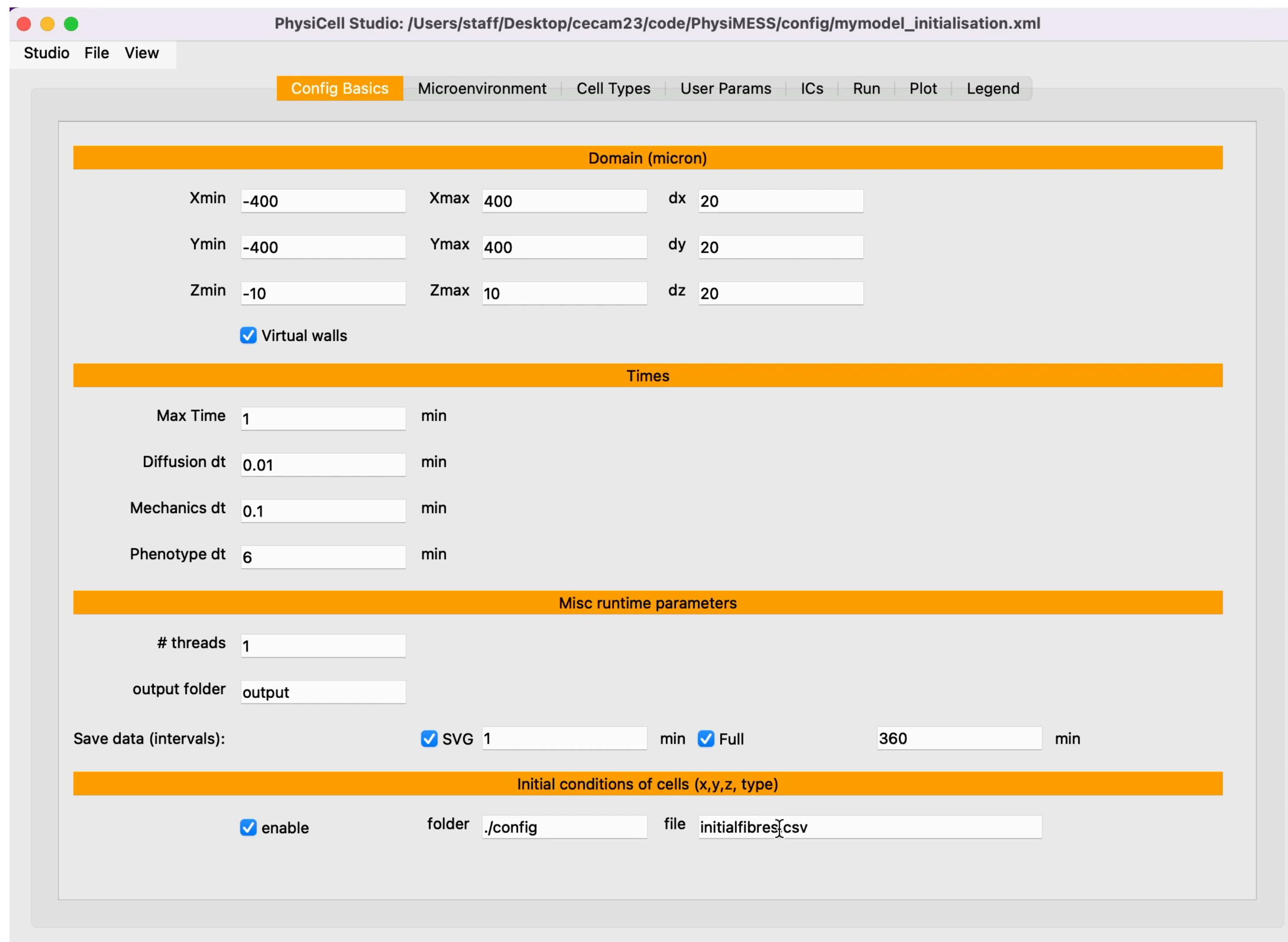
```

void standard_update_cell_velocity
{
    if (1 <= pCell->parameters.unstuck_counter && pCell->parameters.unstuck_counter < unstuck_threshold+1) {
        pCell->parameters.unstuck_counter++;
        pCell->force_update_motility_vector(dt);
        pCell->velocity += phenotype.motility.motility_vector;
    }
    else {
        pCell->update_motility_vector(dt);
        pCell->velocity += phenotype.motility.motility_vector;
    }
}

```

Cell-Fibre Mechanics

mymodel_fibremaze.xml
fibre_maze.csv



increase run time

```
<max_time units="min">1000</max_time>
```

enable csv input

```
<cell_positions type="csv" enabled="true">
  <folder>./config</folder>
  <filename>fibre_maze.csv</filename>
</cell_positions>
```

add attractant: secretion rate 10

ECM: Anisotropic 1.57 radians 60 microns

Cell:

```
<speed>2</speed>
<persistence_time>1</persistence_time>
<migration_bias>.5</migration_bias>
```

Cell-Fibre Mechanics

mymodel_fibremaze.xml
fibre_maze.csv

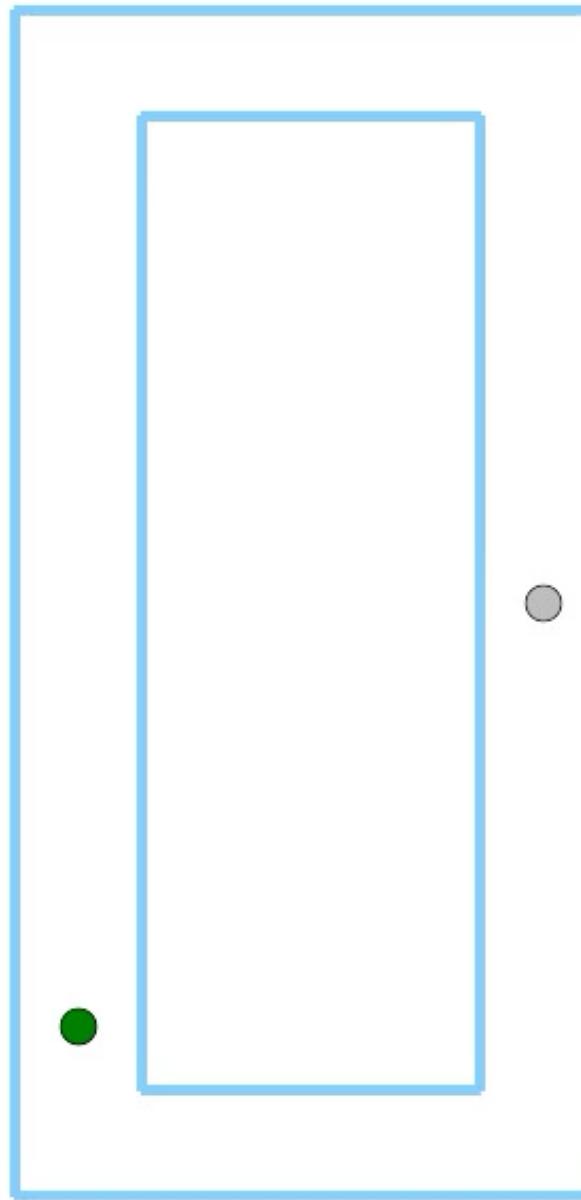
```
<vel_adhesion type="double" units="" description="cell velocity parallel to fibre">0.6</vel_adhesion>
<vel_contact type="double" units="" description="cell velocity orthogonal to fibre">0.1</vel_contact>
<cell_velocity_max type="double" units="" description="max cell velocity">1.0</cell_velocity_max>
```

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



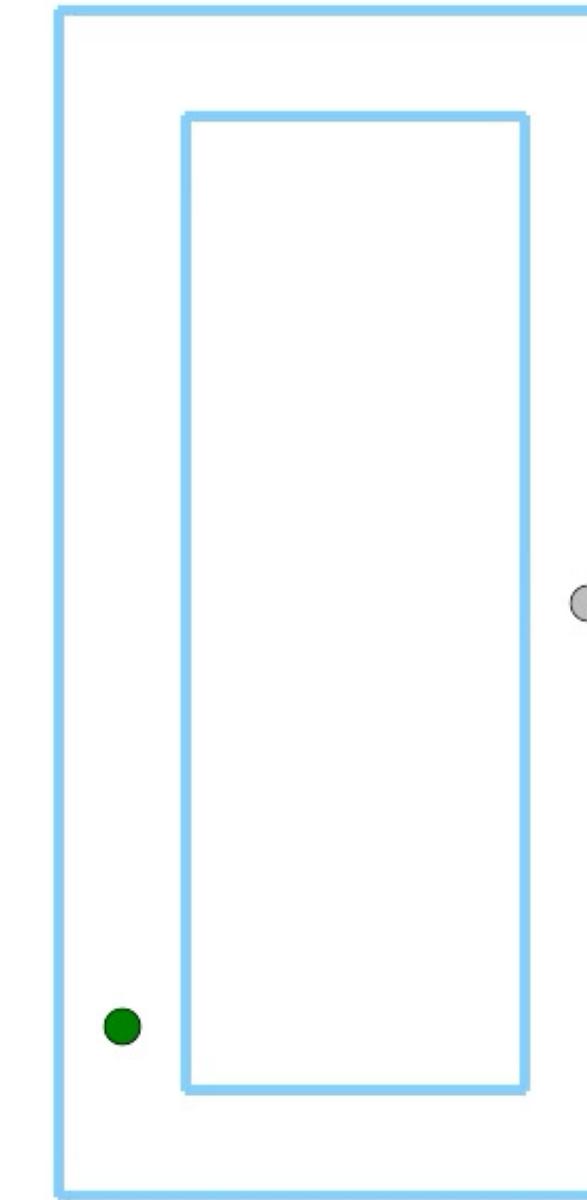
Current time: 0 days, 0 hours, and 0.00 minutes, z = 0.00 µm
58 agents

fibre length - 60 microns



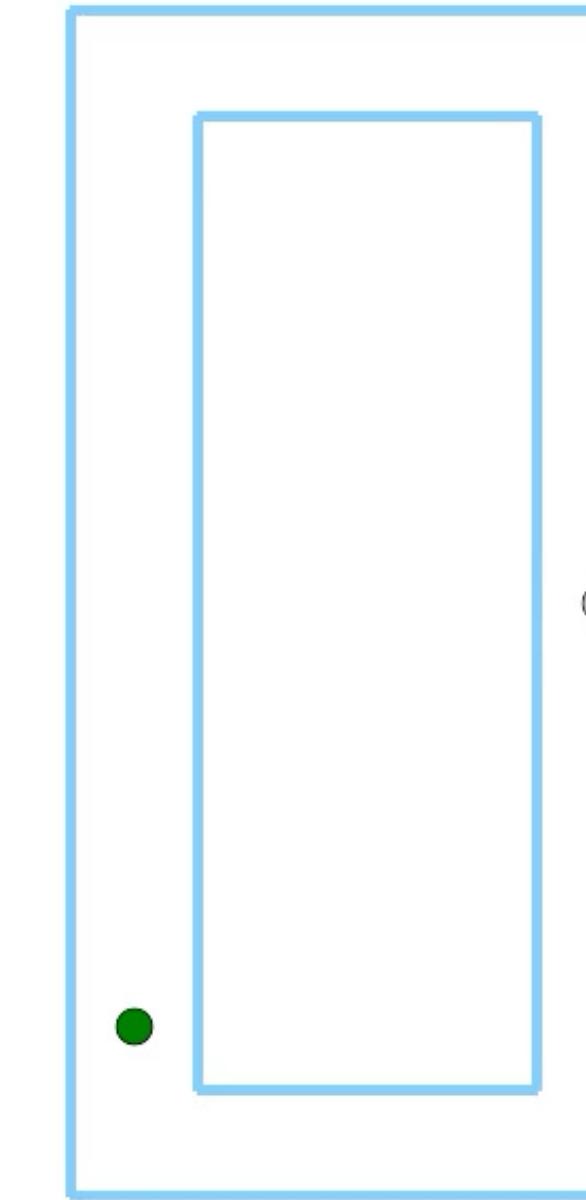
Current time: 0 days, 0 hours, and 0.00 minutes, z = 0.00 µm
58 agents

vel_contact=0.001



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

vel_adhesion=0.06



Fibre Degradation

```
void Cell::add_potentials(Cell* other_agent) {...} else if (this->type_name != "fibre" && (*other_agent).type_name == "fibre") {...}

// Fibre degradation by cell - switched on by flag fibre_degradation
int stuck_threshold = this->parameters.stuck_threshold;
if (this->parameters.fibre_degradation && this->parameters.stuck_counter >= stuck_threshold) {
    displacement *= -1.0/distance;
    double dot_product = DotProduct( vector_A: displacement, vector_B: phenotype.motility.motility_vector);
    if (dot_product >= 0) {
        double rand_degradation = UniformRandom();
        double prob_degradation = this->parameters.fibreDegradationRate; void Cell::degrade_fibre(Cell *fibre_to_degrade) {
            if (rand_degradation <= prob_degradation) {
                (*other_agent).parameters.degradation_flag = true;
                this->parameters.stuck_counter = 0;
            }
        } // degrade any flagged fibres
        #pragma omp parallel for
        for( int i=0; i < (*all_cells).size(); i++ )
        {
            Cell* pC = (*all_cells)[i];
            if (pC->parameters.degradation_flag){
                pC->degrade_fibre(pC);
            }
        }
    }
}
```

PhysiCell_cell.cpp

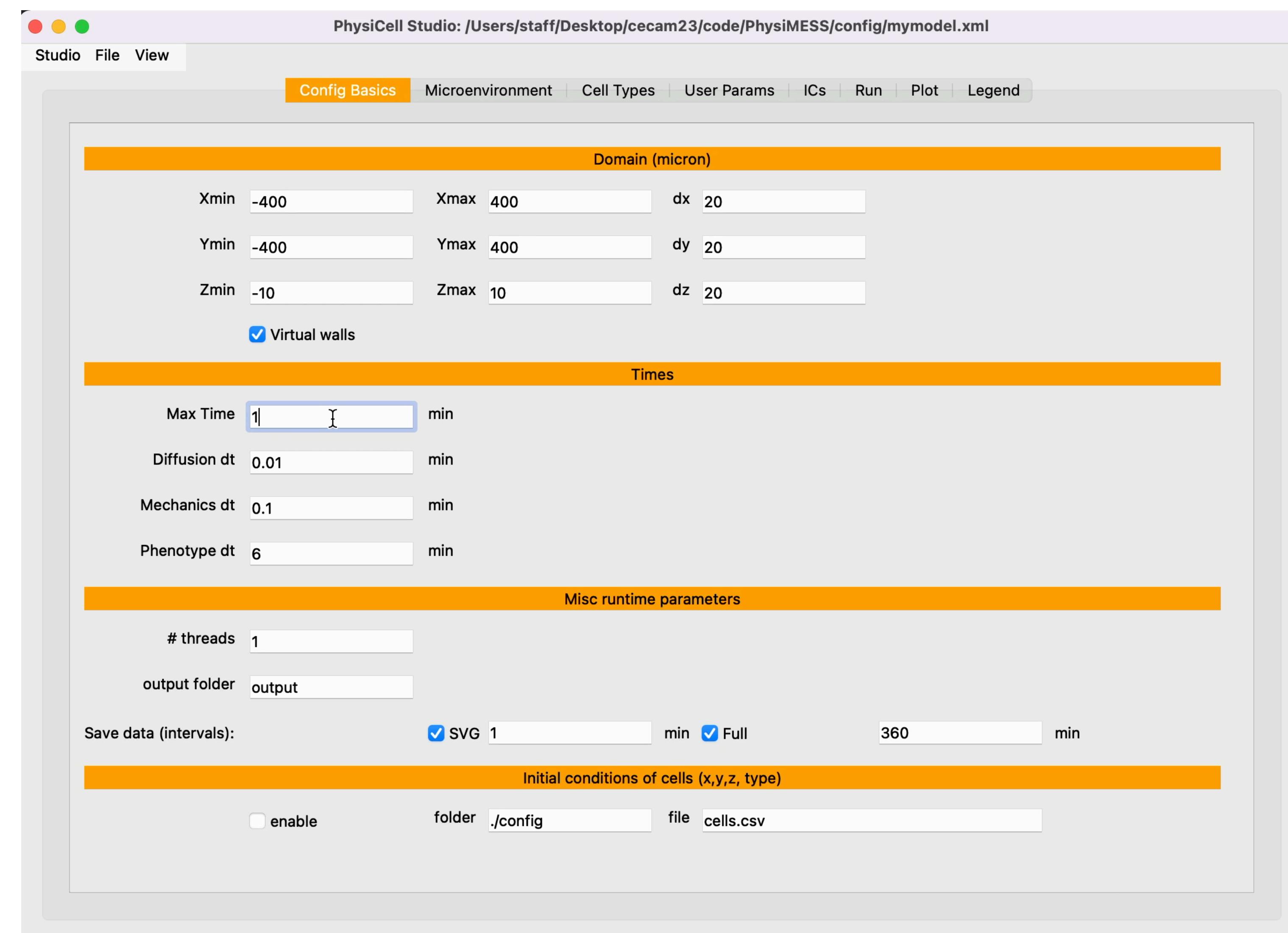
```
}

// don't degrade anything that is not a fibre
if ((*fibre_to_degrade).type_name != "fibre") { return; }
// de-allocate (delete) the cell;
fibre_to_degrade->flag_for_removal();
return;
```

PhysiCell_cell_container.cpp

Fibre Degradation

mymodel_fibre_degradation.xml
cells_and_fibres_attractant.csv



increase run time

```
<max_time units="min">1000</max_time>
```

enable csv input

```
<cell_positions type="csv" enabled="true">
    <folder>./config/Fibre_Degradation</folder>
    <filename>cells_and_fibres_attractant.csv</filename>
</cell_positions>
```

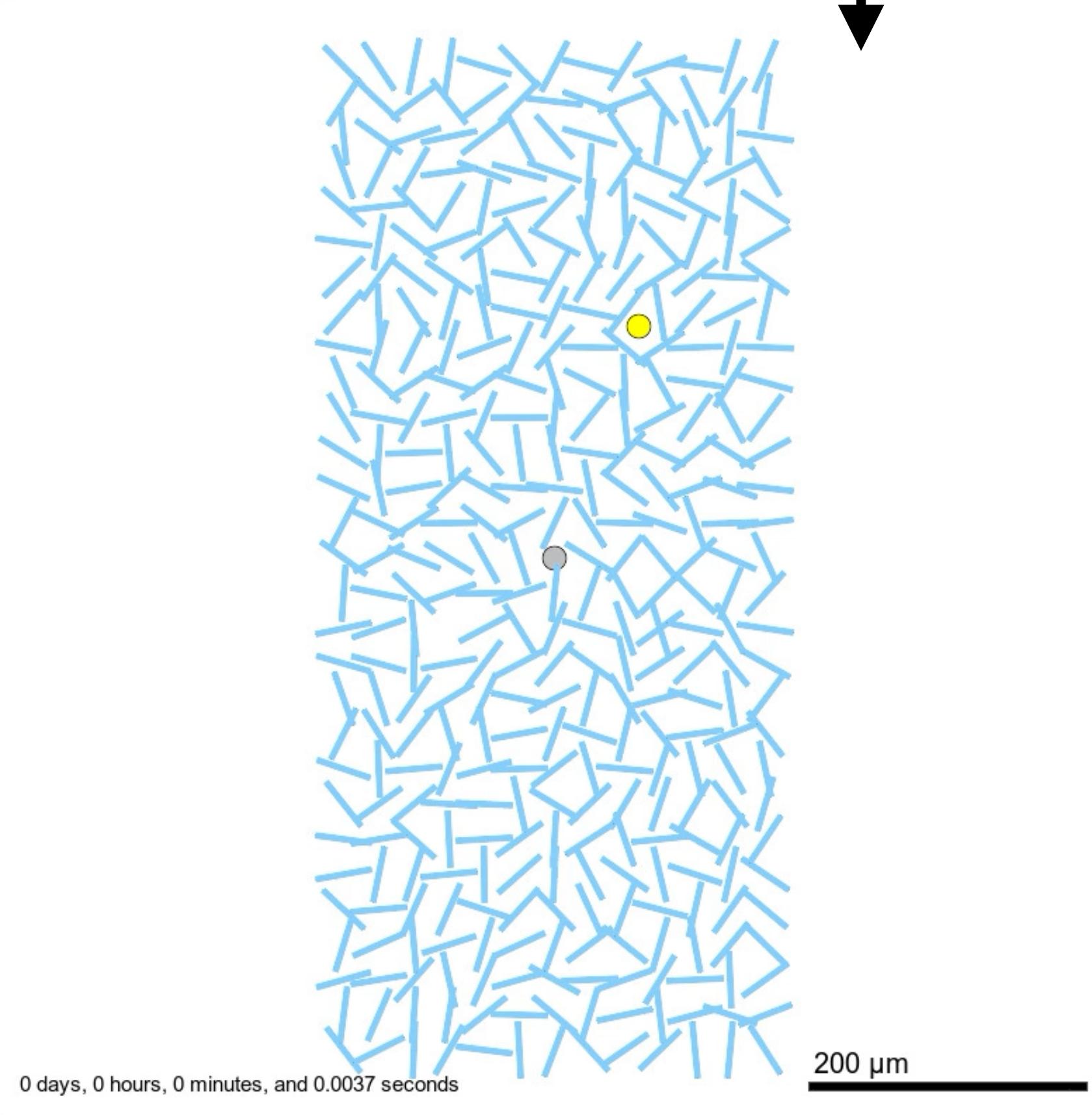
ECM: 40 microns

Fibre Degradation

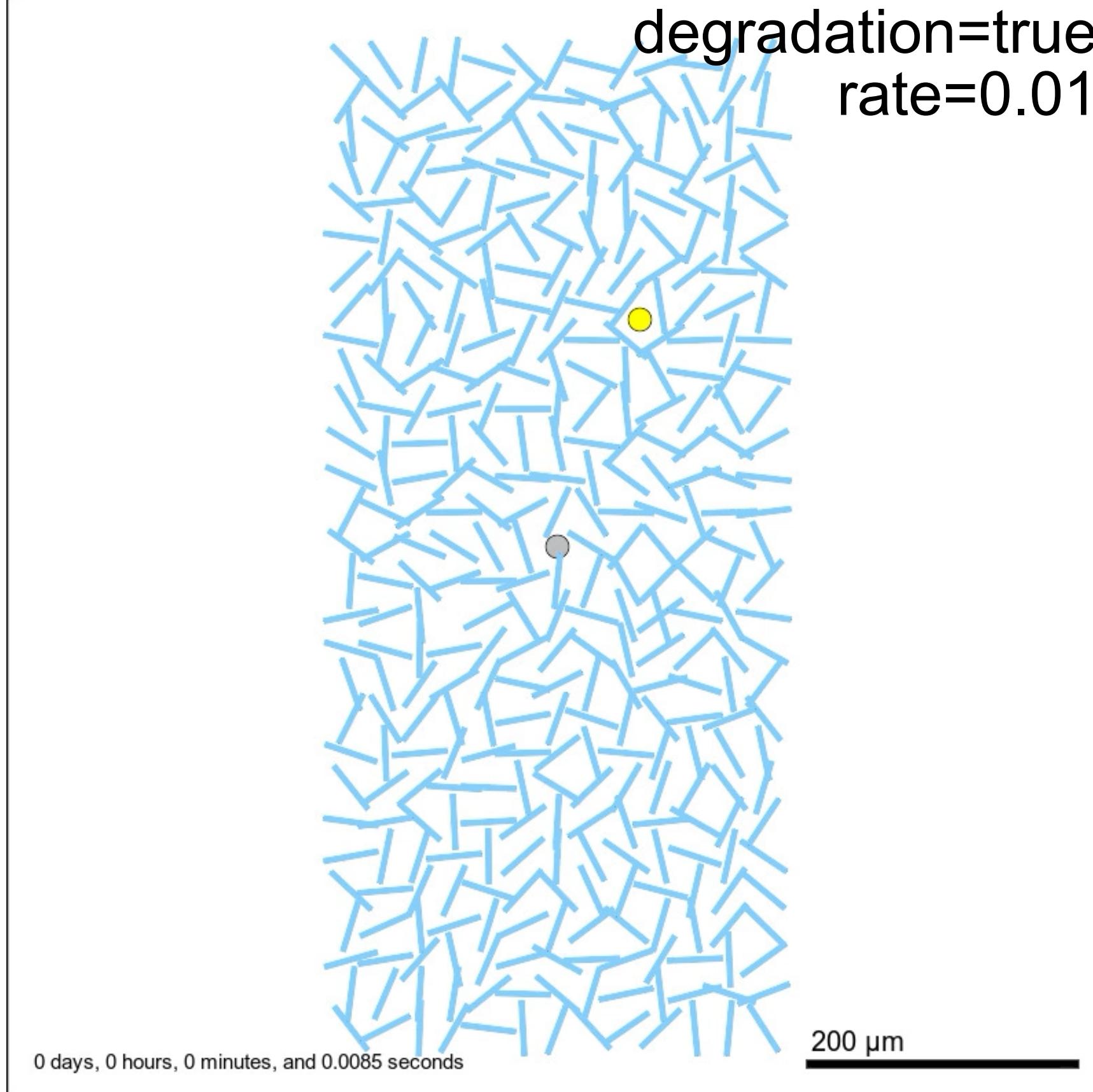
mymodel_fibre_degradation.xml
cells_and_fibres_attractant.csv

```
<fibre_degradation type="bool" units="none" description="flag for fibre degradation">false</fibre_degradation>
<fibre_deg_rate type="double" units="none" description="rate of fibre degradation">0.001</fibre_deg_rate>
<fibre_stuck type="double" units="none" description="how long to wait before considered stuck">10</fibre_stuck>
```

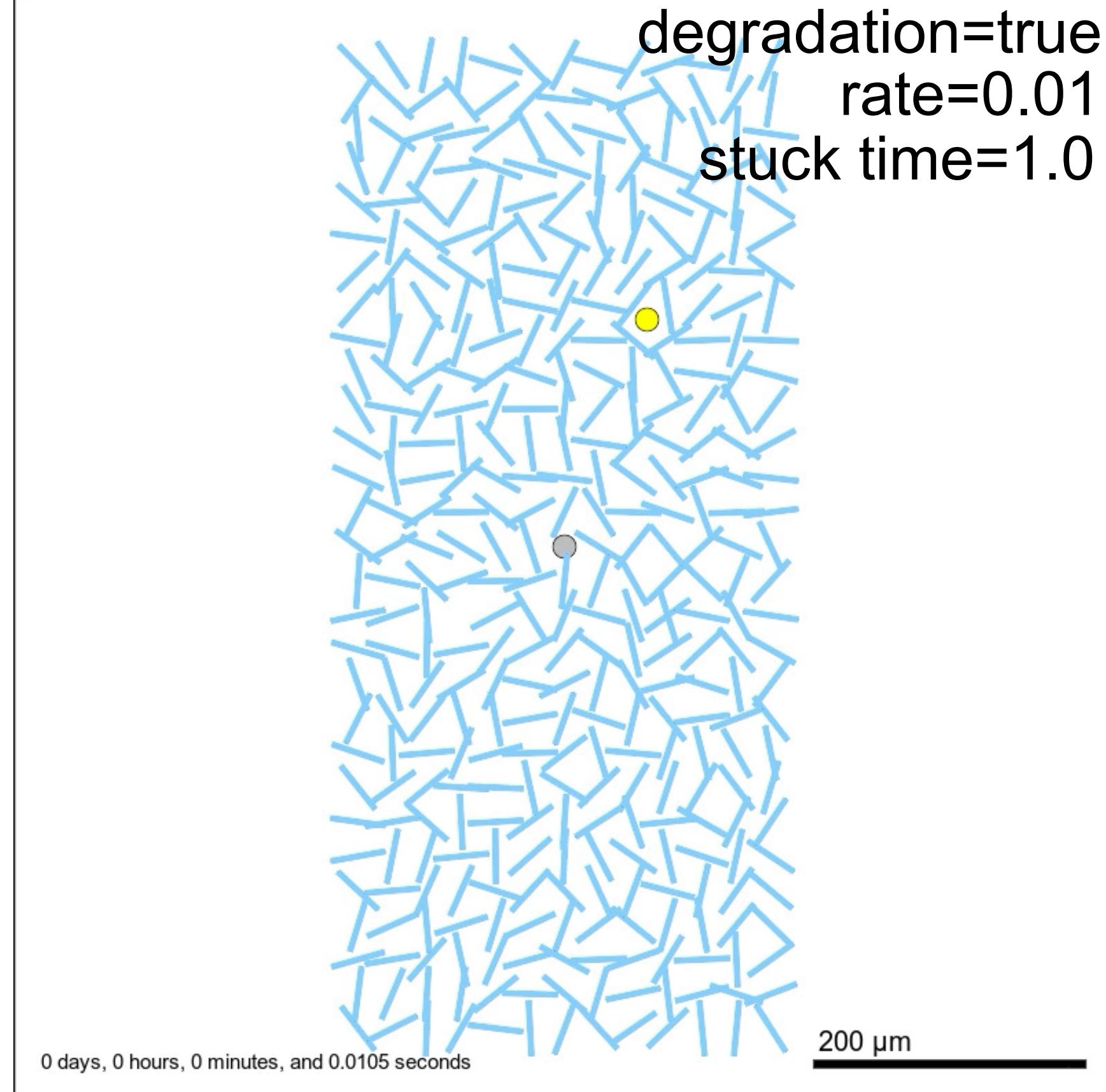
Current time: 0 days, 0 hours, and 0.00 minutes, z = 0.00 µm
378 agents



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



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



Fibre Degradation

mymodel_matrix_degradation.xml
cells_and_fibres.csv

PhysiCell Studio: /Users/staff/Desktop/cecam23/code/PhysiMESS/config/mymodel_fibre_degradation.xml

Studio File View

Config Basics Microenvironment Cell Types User Params ICs Run Plot Legend

Domain (micron)

Xmin -400 Xmax 400 dx 20

Ymin -400 Ymax 400 dy 20

Zmin -10 Zmax 10 dz 20

Virtual walls

Times

Max Time 1000 min

Diffusion dt 0.01 min

Mechanics dt 0.1 min

Phenotype dt 6 min

Misc runtime parameters

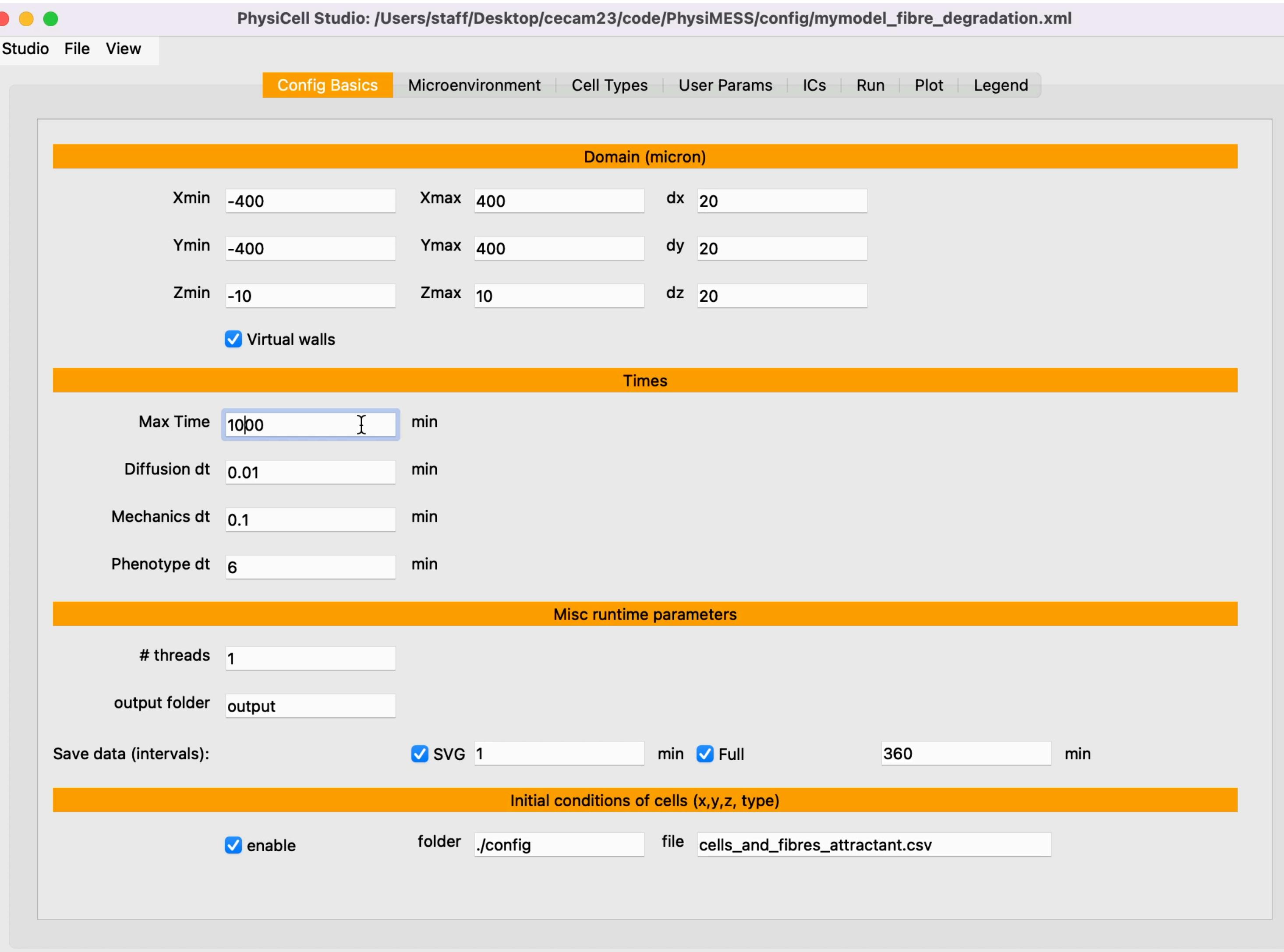
threads 1

output folder output

Save data (intervals): SVG 1 min Full 360 min

Initial conditions of cells (x,y,z, type)

enable folder ./config file cells_and_fibres_attractant.csv



increase run time

```
<max_time units="min">1500</max_time>
```

save SVG every 5 mins

```
<SVG>
  <interval units="min">5</interval>
  <enable>true</enable>
</SVG>
```

enable csv input

```
<cell_positions type="csv" enabled="true">
  <folder>./config/Fibre_Degradation</folder>
  <filename>cells_and_fibres_attractant.csv</filename>
</cell_positions>
```

Cell: birth rate 0.0072 speed 0.0

Fibre Degradation

```
<fibre_degradation type="bool" units="none" description="flag for fibre degradation">false</fibre_degradation>
<fibre_deg_rate type="double" units="none" description="rate of fibre degradation">0.001</fibre_deg_rate>
<fibre_stuck type="double" units="none" description="how long to wait before considered stuck">10</fibre_stuck>
```

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

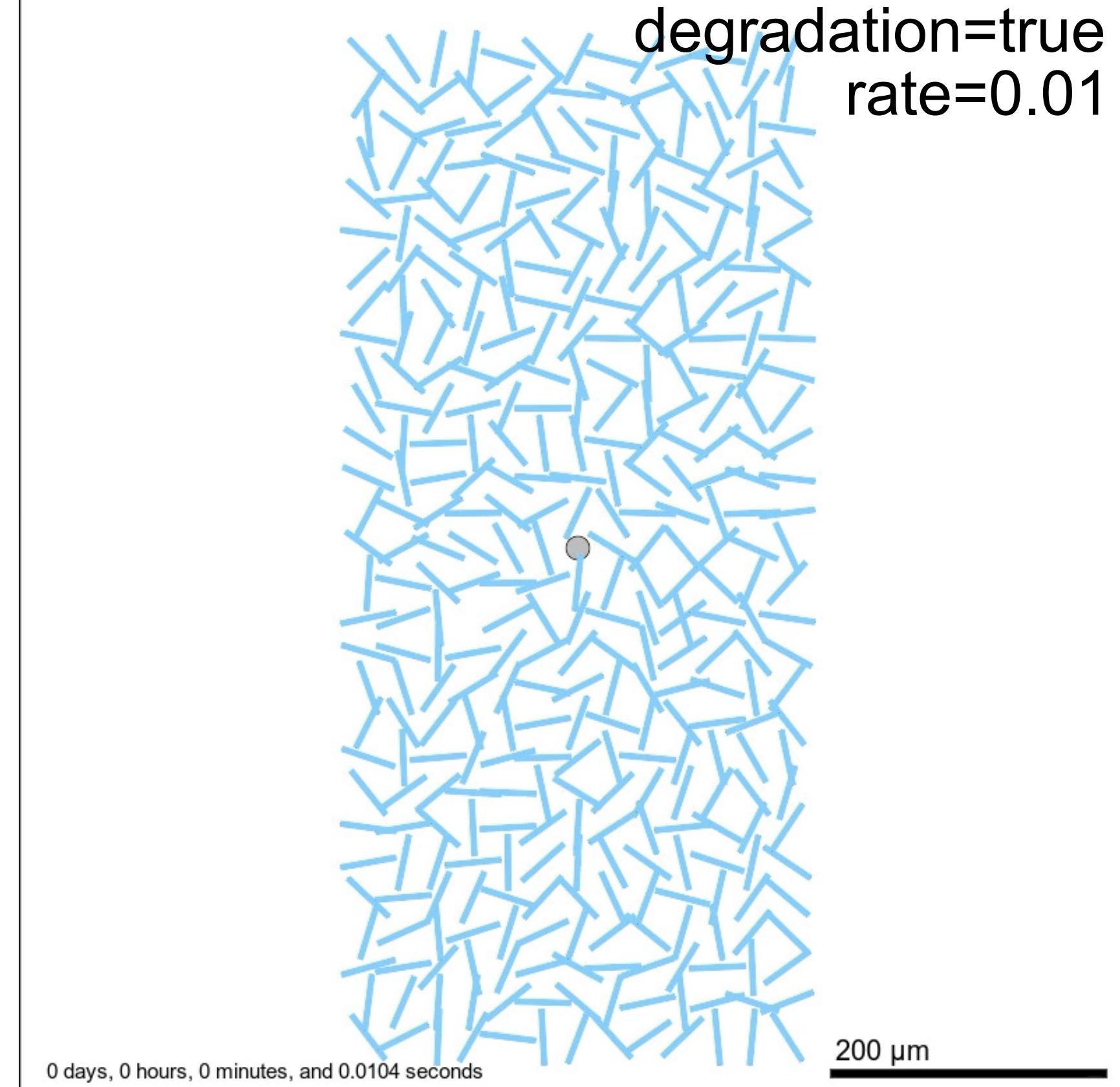
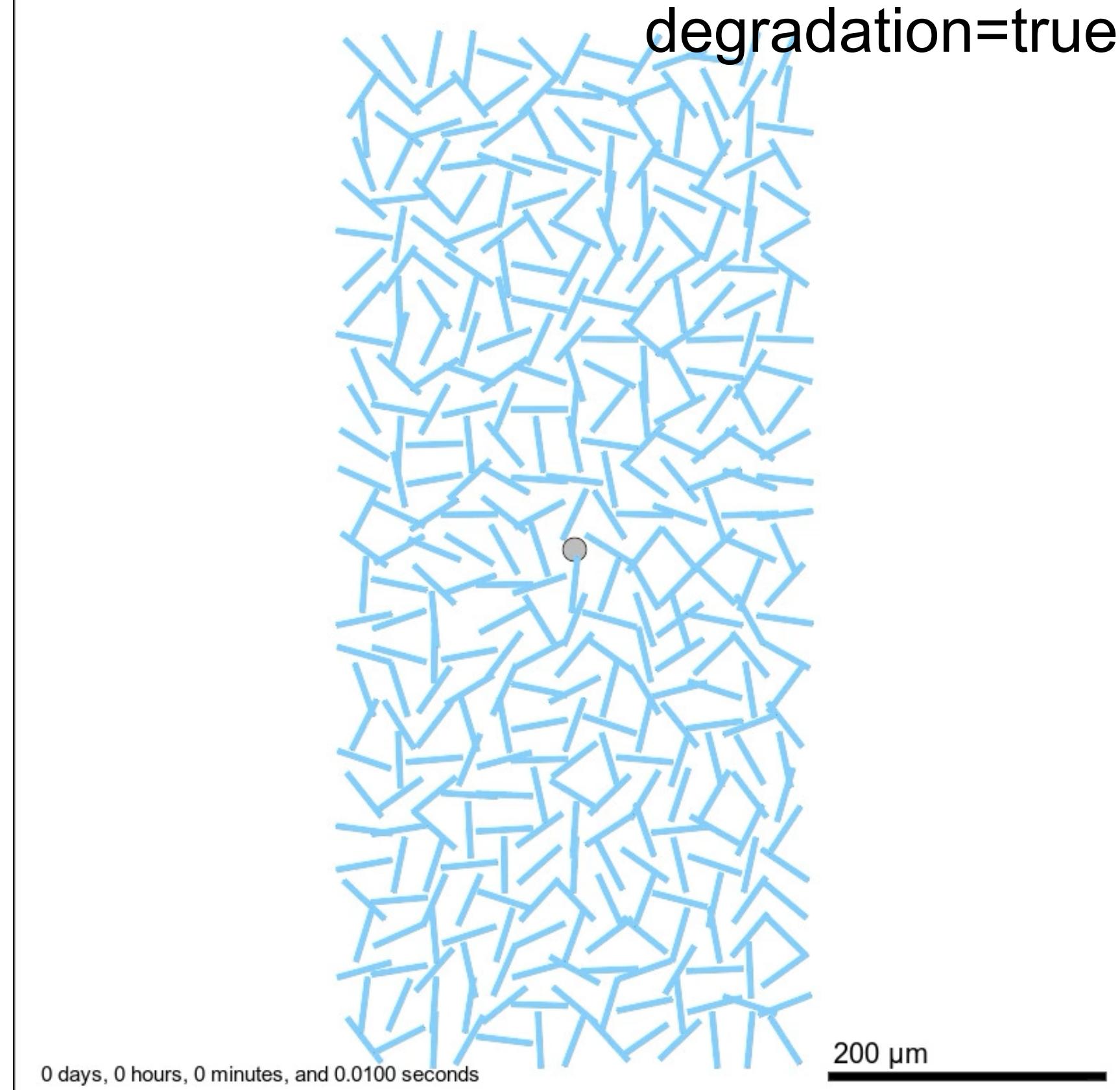
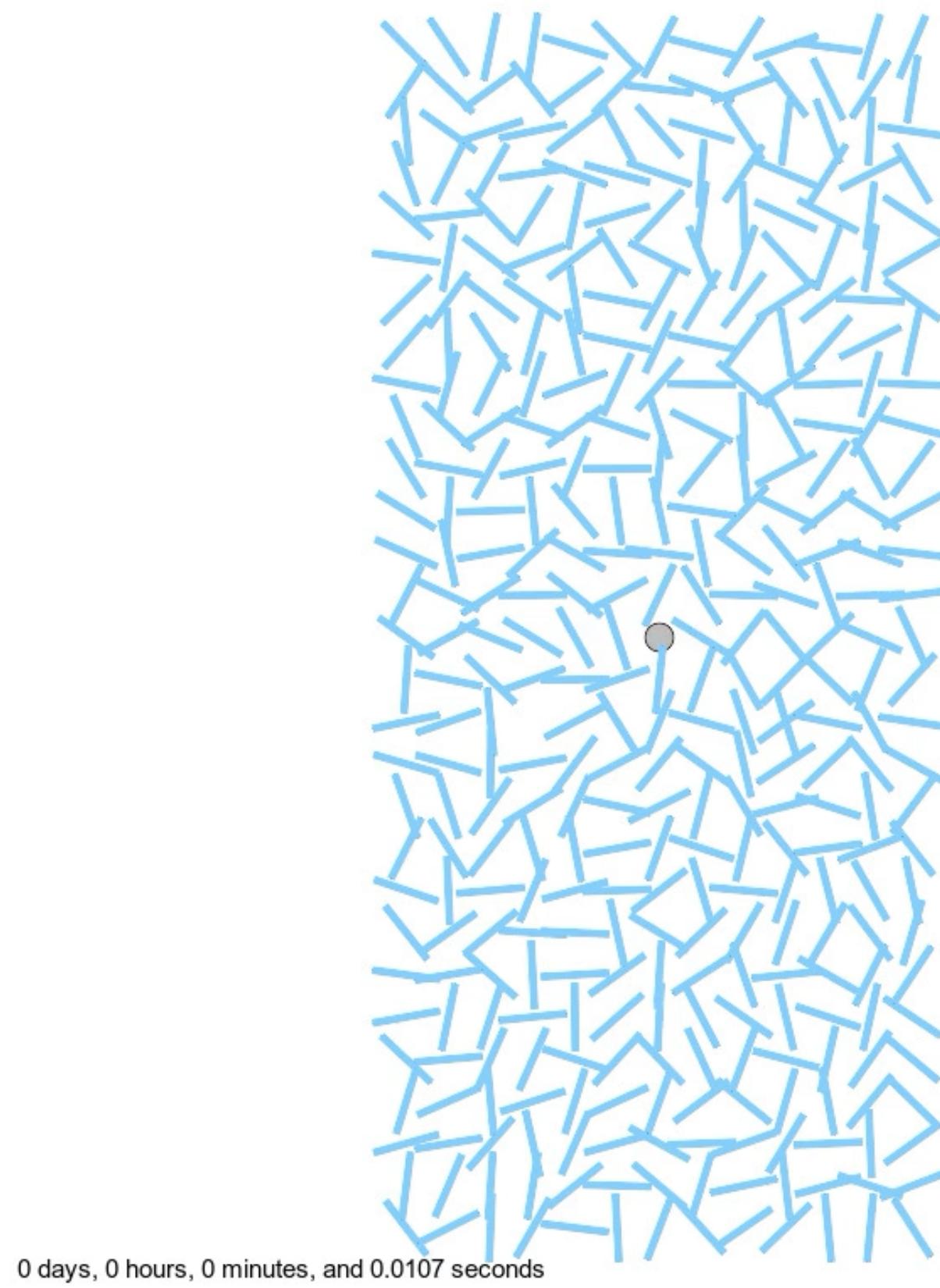


Current time: 0 days, 0 hours, and 0.00 minutes, z = 0.00 µm
377 agents

degradation=true

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

degradation=true
rate=0.01



Fibre Degradation

```
<fibre_degradation type="bool" units="none" description="flag for fibre degradation">false</fibre_degradation>
<fibre_deg_rate type="double" units="none" description="rate of fibre degradation">0.001</fibre_deg_rate>
<fibre_stuck type="double" units="none" description="how long to wait before considered stuck">10</fibre_stuck>
```

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

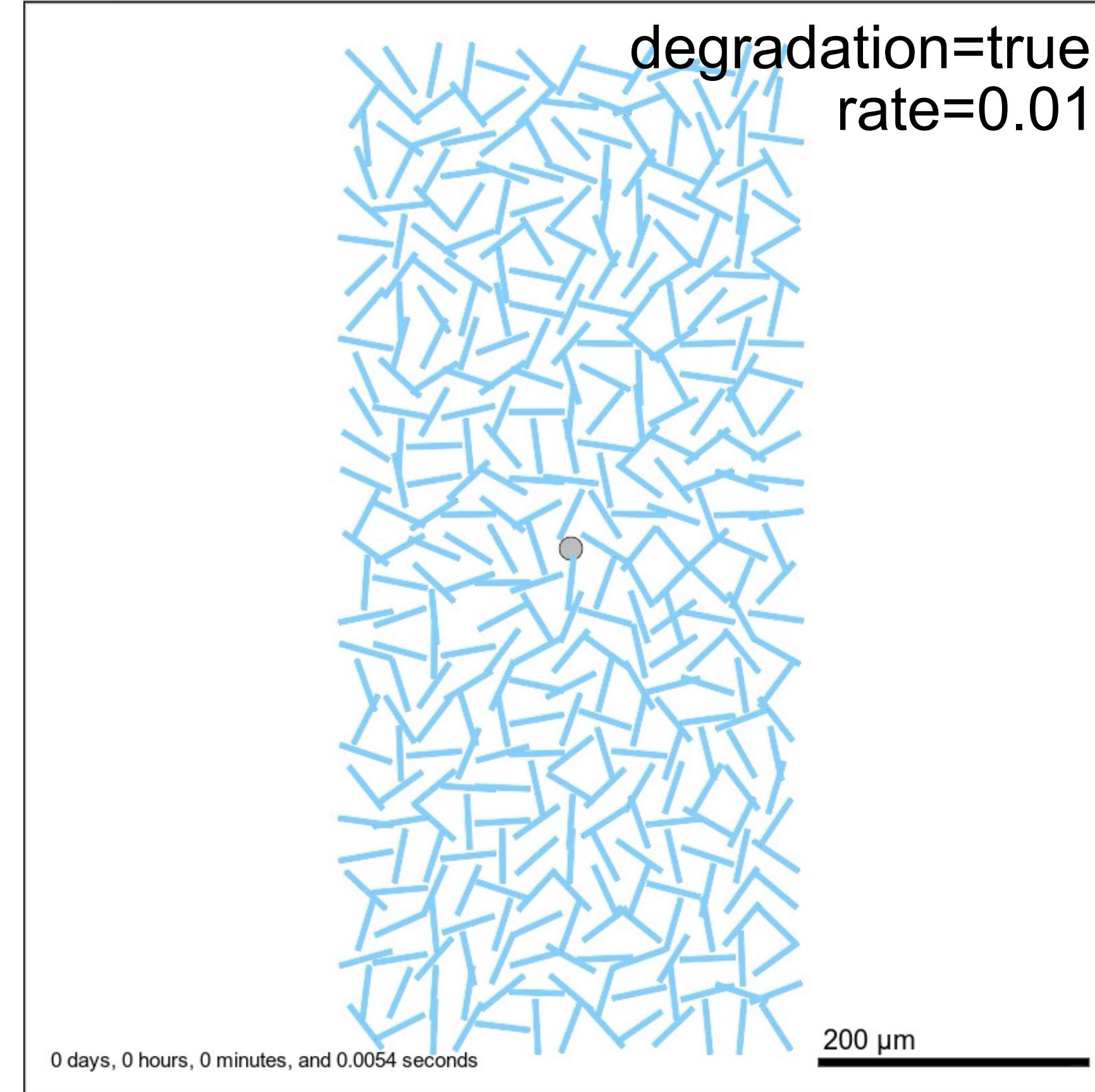
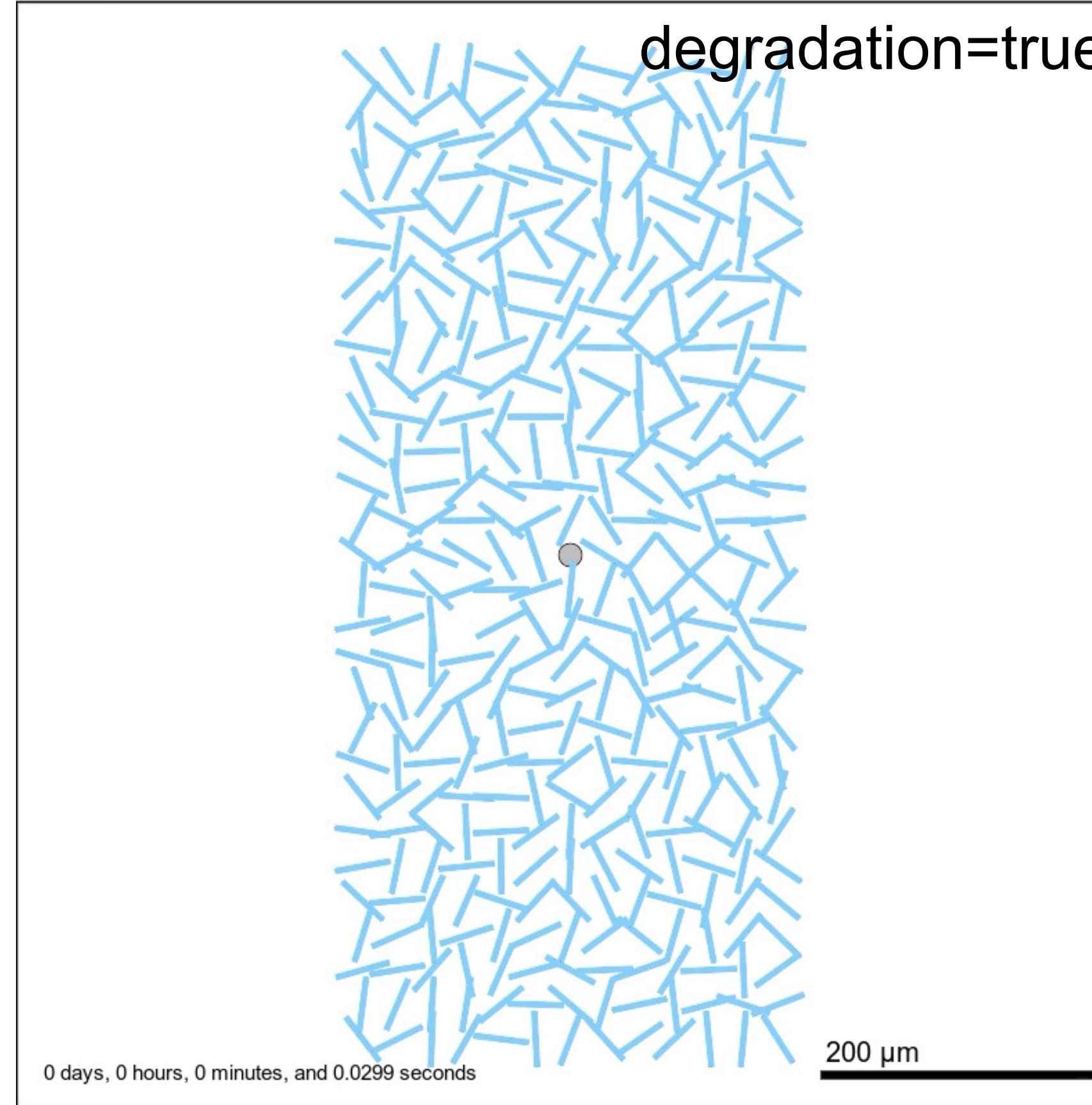


Current time: 0 days, 0 hours, and 0.00 minutes, z = 0.00 µm
377 agents

degradation=true

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

degradation=true
rate=0.01



Fibre Pushing: free fibres

```
else if (this->type_name == "fibre" && (*other_agent).type_name != "fibre") {...}

double R = phenotype.geometry.radius + this->parameters.mRadius;
if (distance <= R) { // fibres only get pushed or rotated by motile cells
    std::vector<double> point_of_impact( n: 3, x: 0.0);
    for (int index = 0; index < 3; index++) {
        point_of_impact[index] = (*other_agent).position[index] - displacement[index];
    }
    // cell-fibre pushing only if fibre no crosslinks
    if (this->parameters.X_crosslink_count == 0) {
        // fibre pushing turned on
        if ((*other_agent).parameters.fibre_pushing) {
            // as per PhysiCell
            static double simple_pressure_scale = 0.027288820670331;
            // temp_r = 1 - distance/R;
            double temp_r = 0;
            temp_r = -distance;
            temp_r /= R;
            temp_r += 1.0;
            temp_r *= temp_r;
            // add the relative pressure contribution NOT SURE IF NEEDED
            state.simple_pressure += (temp_r / simple_pressure_scale);

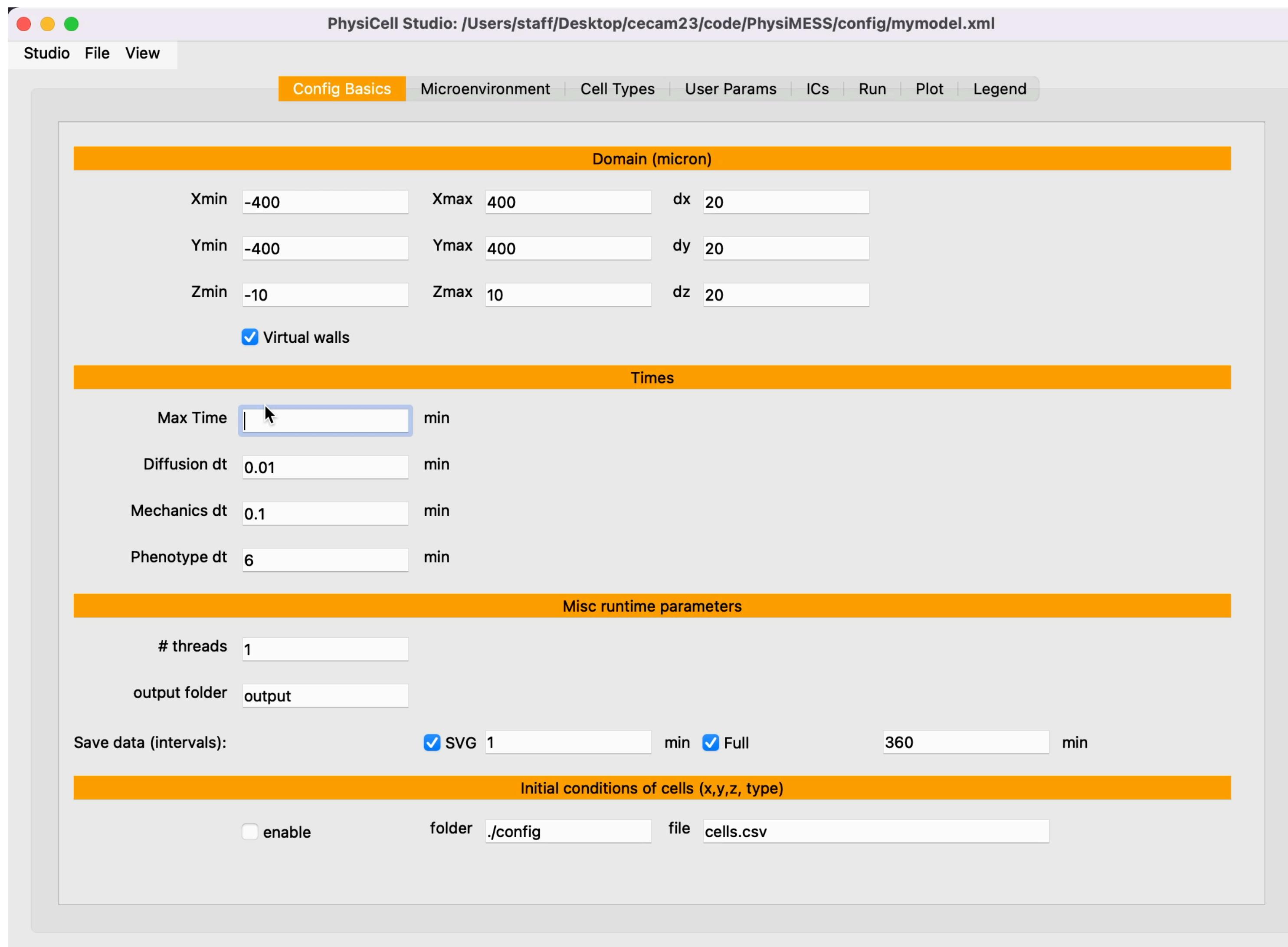
            double effective_repulsion = sqrt(phenotype.mechanics.cell_cell_repulsion_strength *
                (*other_agent).phenotype.mechanics.cell_cell_repulsion_strength);
            temp_r *= effective_repulsion;

            if (fabs(temp_r) < 1e-16) { return; }
            temp_r /= distance;
            naxpy(&velocity, & temp_r, & displacement);
        }
    }
}
```

PhysiCell_cell.cpp

Fibre Pushing: free fibres

mymodel_pushing.xml
snowplough.csv



increase run time

```
<max_time units="min">500</max_time>
```

enable csv input

```
<cell_positions type="csv" enabled="true">
  <folder>./config</folder>
  <filename>snowplough.csv</filename>
</cell_positions>
```

Cell:

```
<speed>2</speed>
<persistence_time>1</persistence_time>
<migration_bias>.5</migration_bias>
```

ECM: Anisotropic 1.57 radians 40 microns

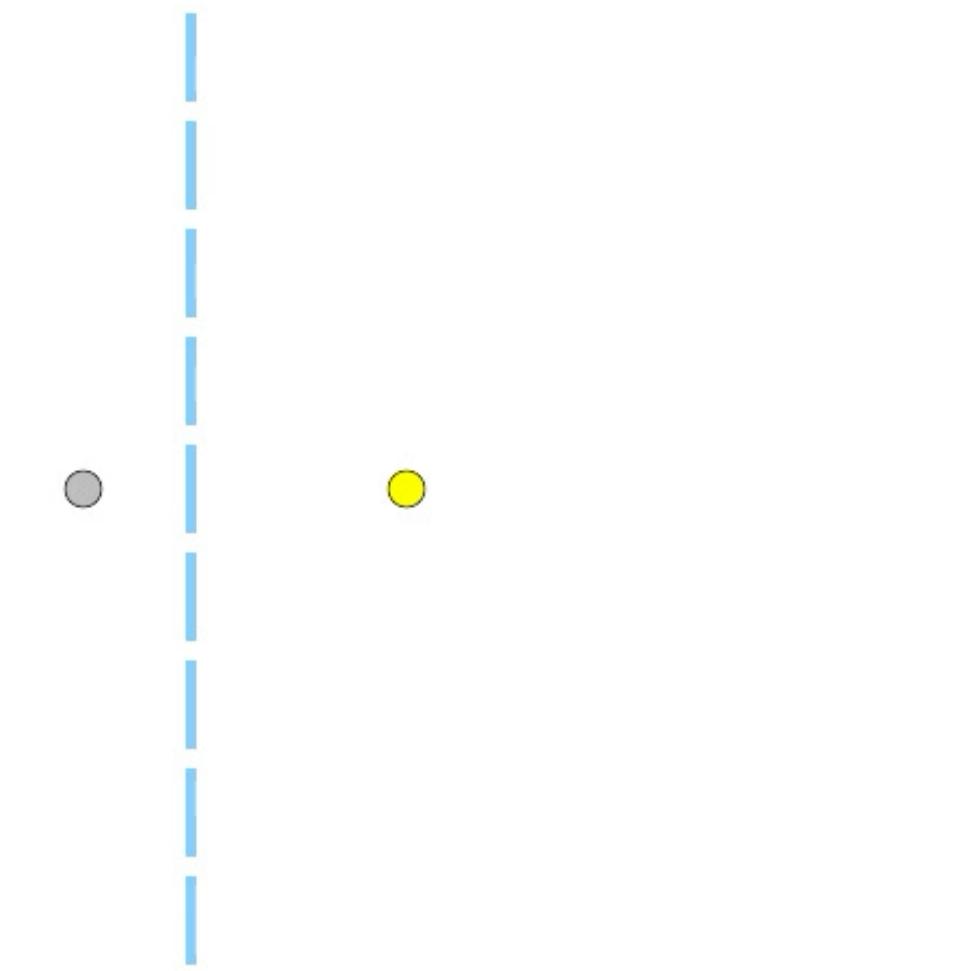
Fibre pushing on

Fibre Pushing: free fibres

```
<fibre_pushing type="bool" units="none" description="flag for fibre pushing">true</fibre_pushing>
```

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

40 microns

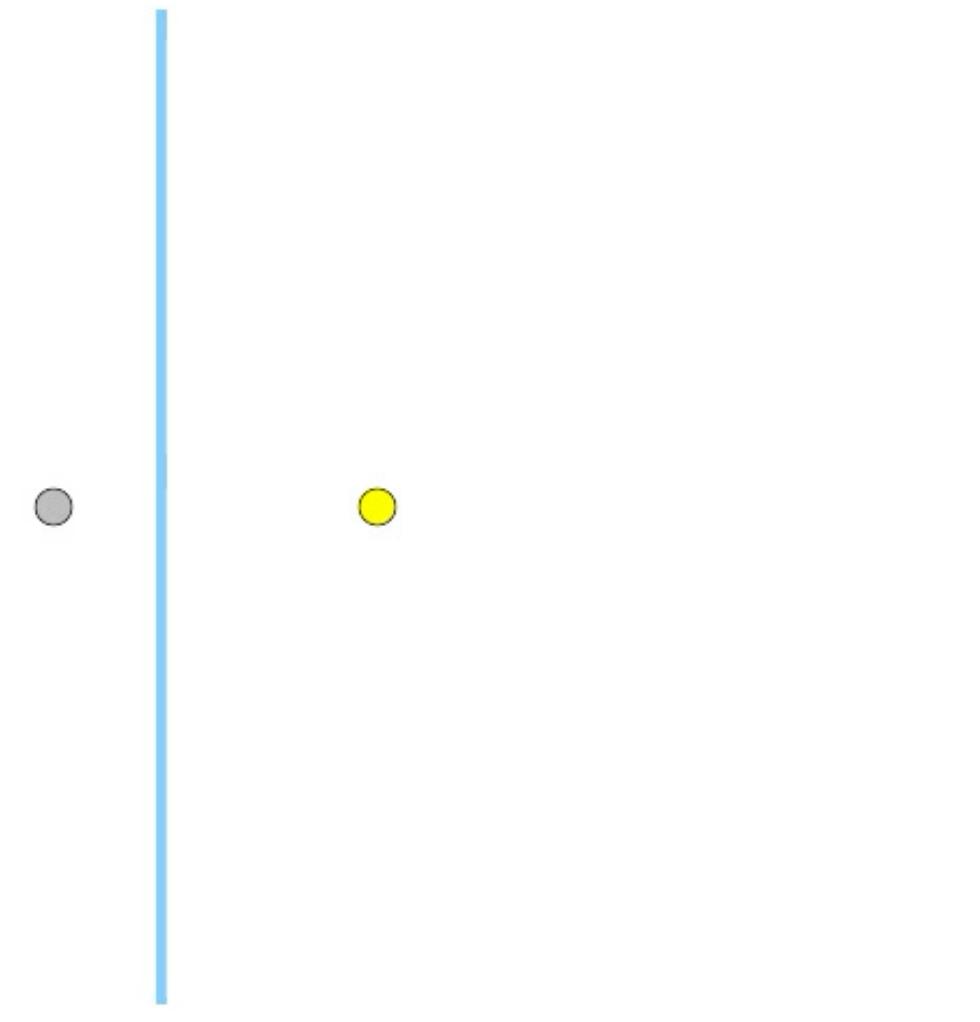


0 days, 0 hours, 0 minutes, and 0.0023 seconds

200 µm

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

60 microns

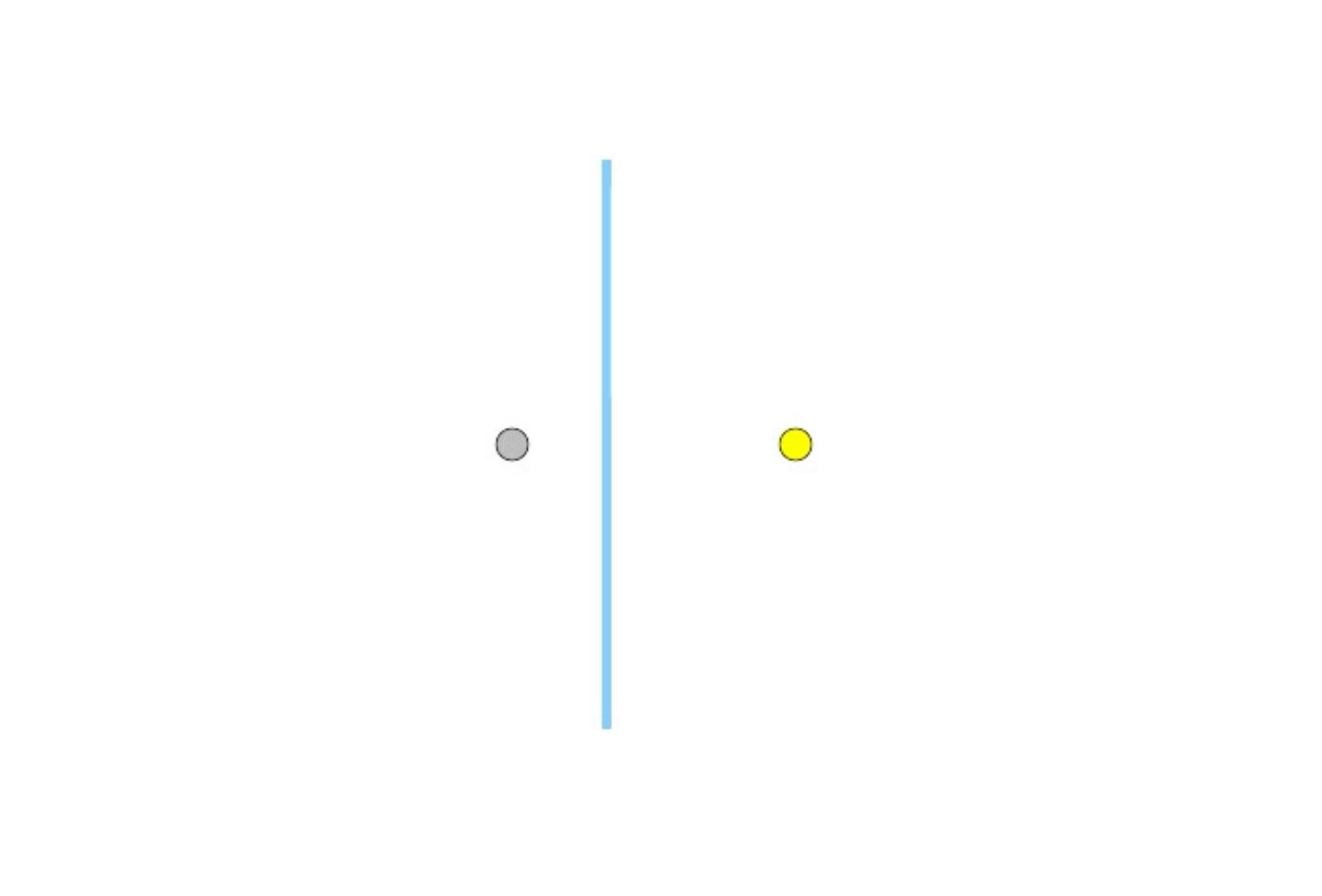


0 days, 0 hours, 0 minutes, and 0.0035 seconds

200 µm

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

1 fibre: 300 microns



0 days, 0 hours, 0 minutes, and 0.0028 seconds

200 µm

Fibre Rotation: free fibres

```
else if (this->type_name == "fibre" && (*other_agent).type_name != "fibre") {...}

// fibre rotation turned on (2D)
if ((*other_agent).parameters.fibre_rotation) {
    std::vector<double> old_orientation( n: 3,  x: 0.0);
    for (int i = 0; i < 2; i++) {
        old_orientation[i] = this->state.orientation[i];
    }

    double moment_arm_magnitude = sqrt(
        point_of_impact[0] * point_of_impact[0] + point_of_impact[1] * point_of_impact[1]);
    double impulse = this->parameters.mFibreStickiness*(*other_agent).phenotype.motility.migration_speed * moment_arm_magnitude;
    double fibre_length = 2 * this->parameters.mLength;
    double angular_velocity = impulse / (0.5 * fibre_length * fibre_length);
    double angle = angular_velocity;
    this->state.orientation[0] = old_orientation[0] * cos(angle) - old_orientation[1] * sin(angle);
    this->state.orientation[1] = old_orientation[0] * sin(angle) + old_orientation[1] * cos(angle);
    normalize(&this->state.orientation);
}
```



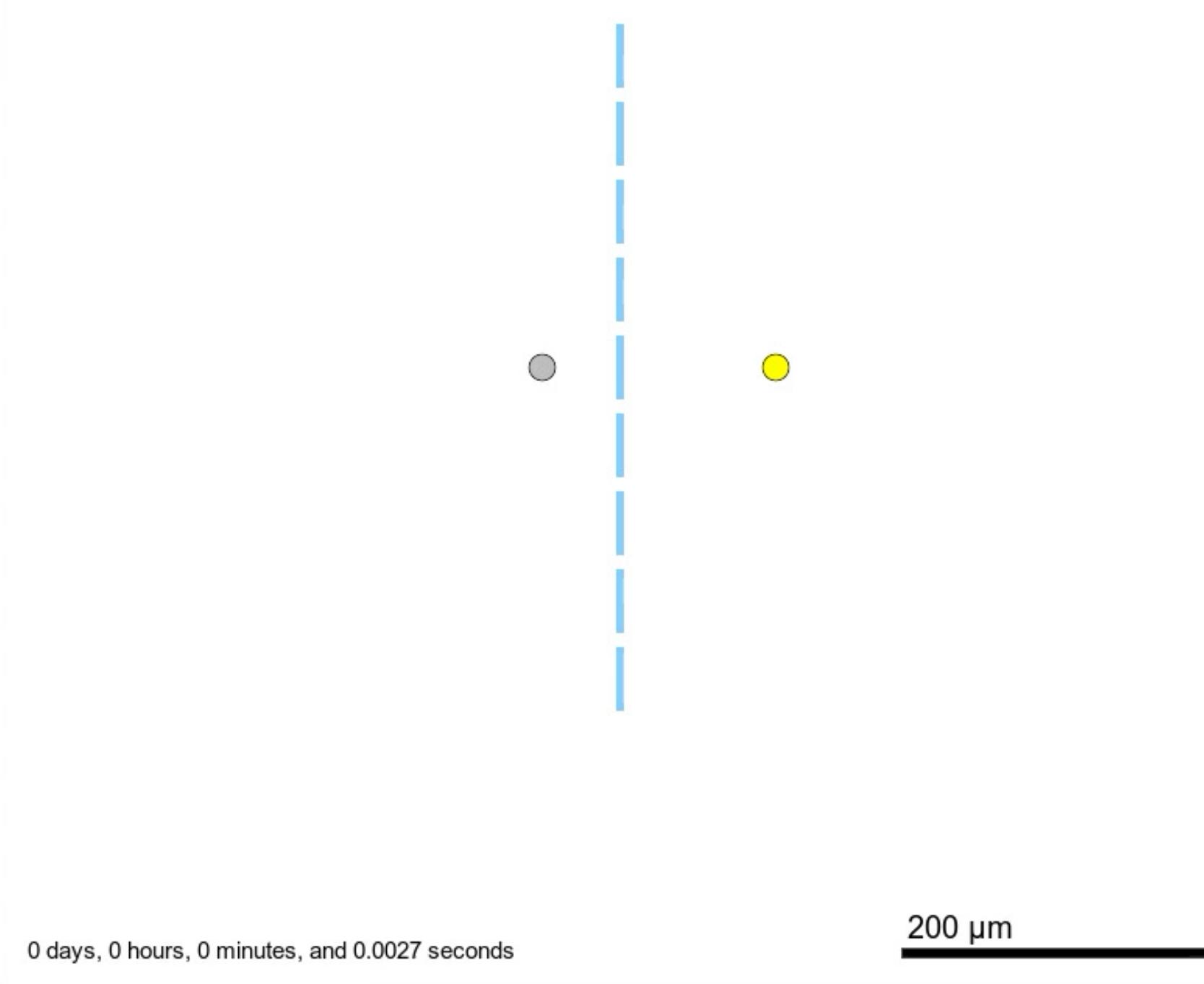
Marco Ruscone
Institut Curie

Fibre Rotation: free fibres

```
<fibre_pushing type="bool" units="none" description="flag for fibre pushing">false</fibre_pushing>
<fibre_sticky type="double" units="none" description="measure of how easy it is to move a fibre">1.0</fibre_sticky>
<fibre_rotation type="bool" units="none" description="flag for fibre rotation">true</fibre_rotation>
```

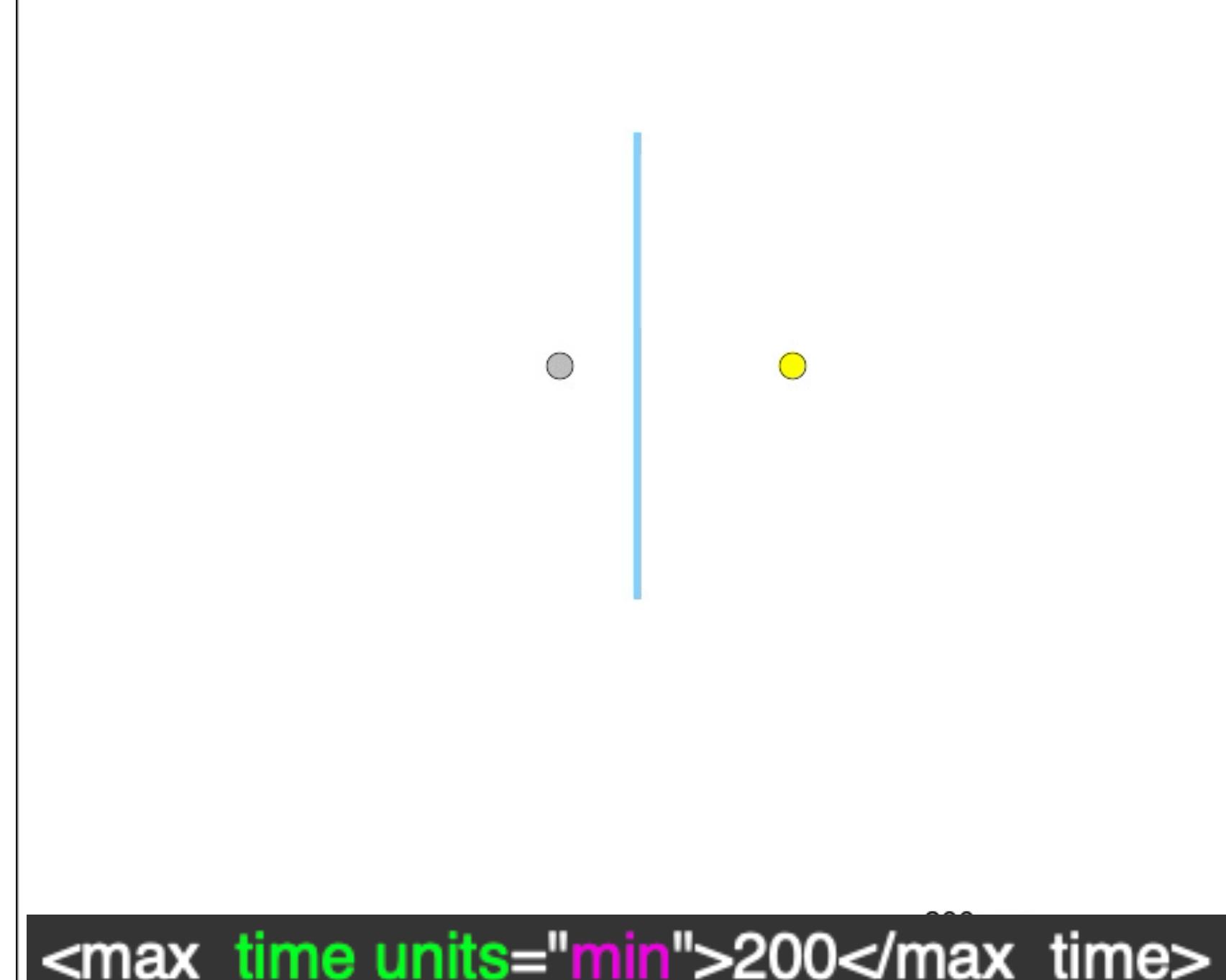
Current time: 0 days, 0 hours, and 0.00 minutes, z = 0.00 µm
11 agents

40 microns



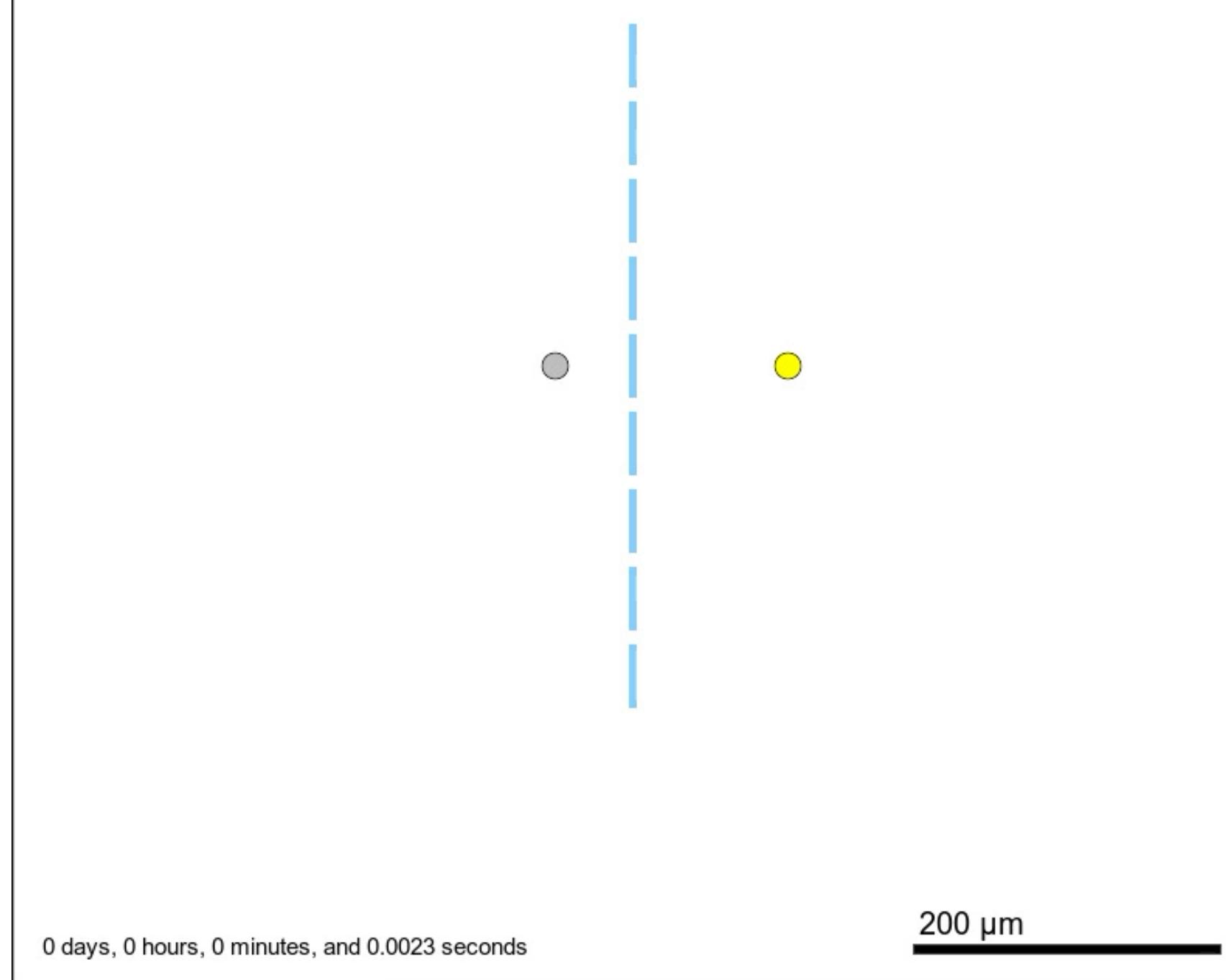
Current time: 0 days, 0 hours, and 0.00 minutes, z = 0.00 µm
3 agents

300 microns



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

stickiness=0.01



Fibre Rotation: cross linked fibres

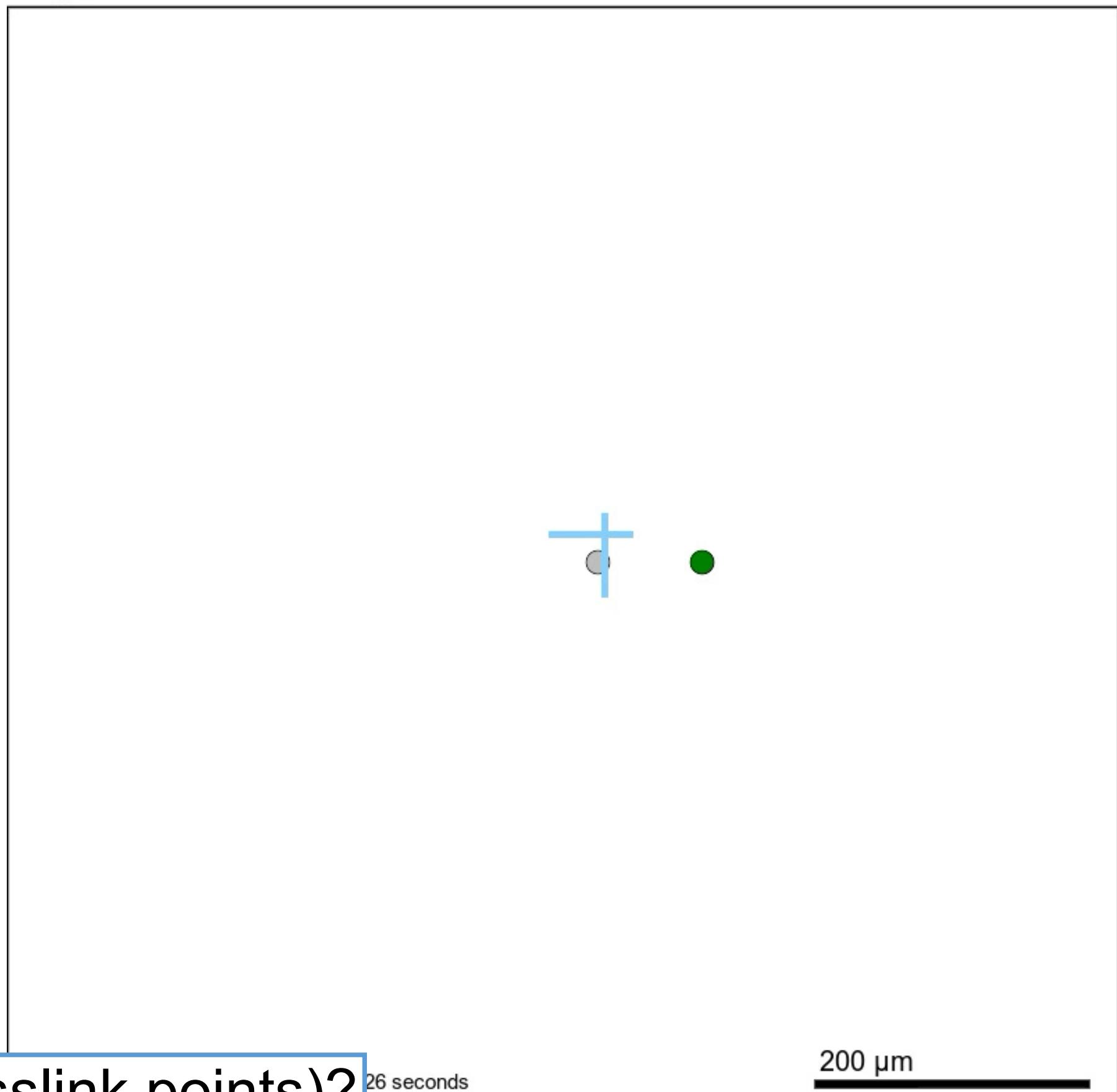
mymodel_hinge.xml
hinge.csv

```
else if (this->type_name == "fibre" && (*other_agent).type_name != "fibre") {...}
```

```
// fibre rotation around other fibre (2D only and fibres intersect at a single point)
if ((*other_agent).parameters.fibre_rotation && this->parameters.X_crosslink_count == 1) {
    double distance_fibre_centre_to_crosslink = 0.0;
    std::vector<double> fibre_centre_to_crosslink( n: 3, x: 0.0);
    for (int i = 0; i < 2; i++) {
        fibre_centre_to_crosslink[i] = this->state.crosslink_point[i]-this->position[i];
        distance_fibre_centre_to_crosslink += fibre_centre_to_crosslink[i]*fibre_centre_to_crosslink[i];
    }
    distance_fibre_centre_to_crosslink = sqrt(distance_fibre_centre_to_crosslink);

    std::vector<double> old_orientation( n: 3, x: 0.0);
    for (int i = 0; i < 2; i++) {
        old_orientation[i] = this->state.orientation[i];
    }
    double moment_arm_magnitude = sqrt(
        point_of_impact[0] * point_of_impact[0] + point_of_impact[1] * point_of_impact[1]);
    double impulse = this->parameters.mFibreStickiness>(*other_agent).phenotype.motility.migration_speed * moment_arm_magnitude;
    double fibre_length = 2 * this->parameters.mLength;
    double angular_velocity = impulse / (0.5 * fibre_length * fibre_length);
    double angle = angular_velocity;
    this->state.orientation[0] = old_orientation[0] * cos(angle) - old_orientation[1] * sin(angle);
    this->state.orientation[1] = old_orientation[0] * sin(angle) + old_orientation[1] * cos(angle);
    normalize(&this->state.orientation);
    this->position[0] = this->state.crosslink_point[0]-distance_fibre_centre_to_crosslink*state.orientation[0];
    this->position[1] = this->state.crosslink_point[1]-distance_fibre_centre_to_crosslink*state.orientation[1];
}
```

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



What if two fibres begin to overlap (multiple crosslink points)?
Why does the fibre pair keep rotating?

PhysiMESS Modifications

The following files have been modified for PhysiMESS:

Code read between lines:

```
// !!! PHYSIMESS CODE BLOCK START !!! //
// !!! PHYSIMESS CODE BLOCK END !!! //
```

PhysiMESS/modules/PhysiCell_pathology.cpp

- Code to visualise fibres as thin rectangles rather than spheres added to `SVG_plot`
- Similarly fibres visualised as rectangles in the plot legend via `create_plot_legend`

PhysiMESS/custom-modules/custom.cpp

- Changes made in `set_up_tissue` to allow us to initialise fibres either manually or from a csv file

PhysiMESS/core/PhysiCell_cell.h

```
#include <list> required
```

The following additional functions:

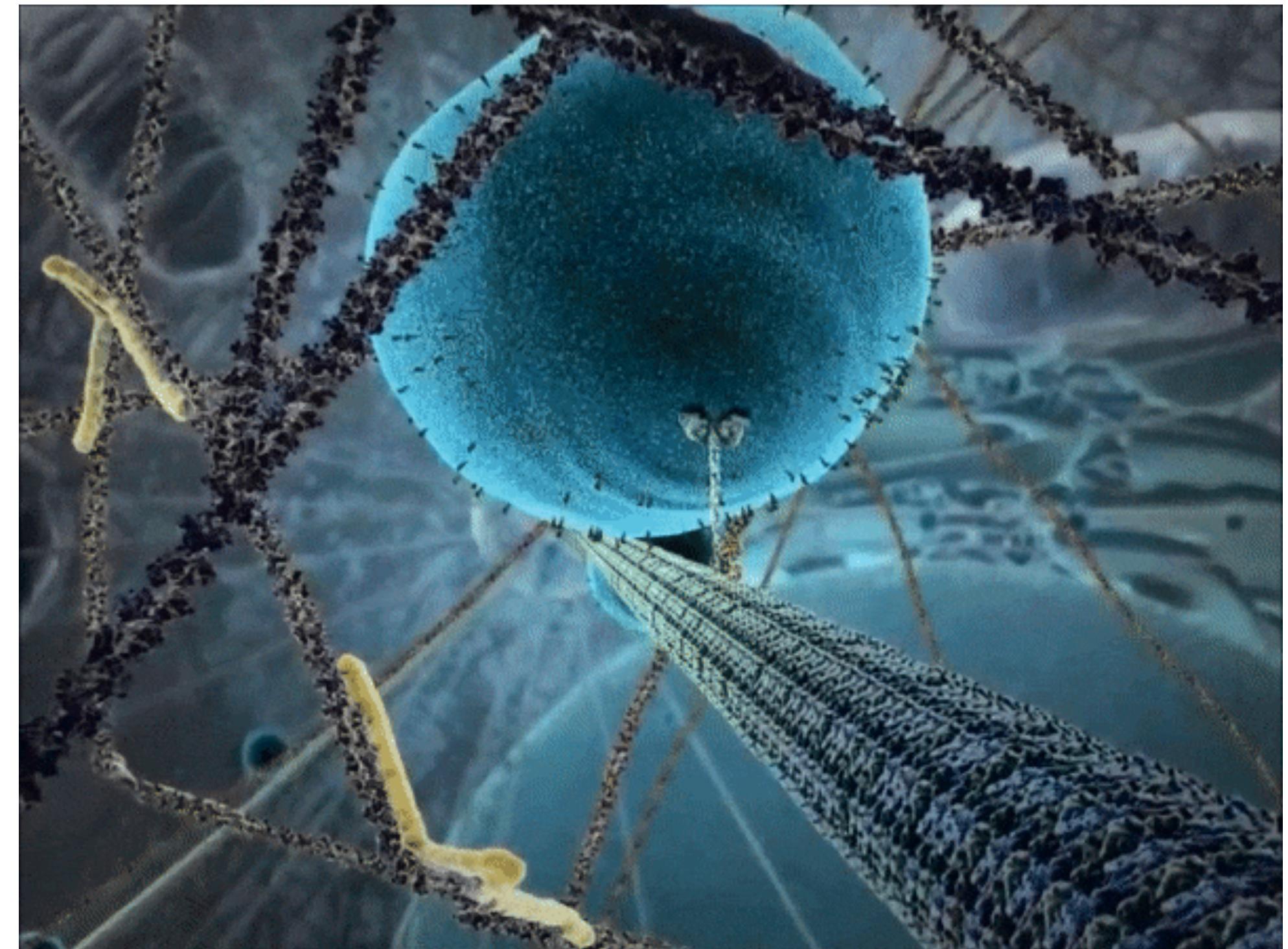
- `std::vector<Cell*> crosslinkers;`
- `std::vector<double> crosslink_point;`
- `void force_update_motility_vector(double dt_);`



Next Steps

- Release PhysiMESS
- Incorporate further additional standard/basic physics for cell-ECM interactions
- Keep pushing the capabilities of PhysiMESS/PhysiCell

This is where you come in!!!!



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ECM Workshop:

