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Human Arterial-Tree Multi-scale Modeling, Simulations and Visualization

L. Grinberg and G. E. Karniadakis
CRUNCH Group
Division of Applied Mathematics
Brown University

D. Fedosov
Institute of Complex Systems
FZ Juelich

J. A. Insley, V. Morozov, M. E. Papka
Argonne National Laboratory

NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR COMPUTATIONAL SCIENCES



Human arterial-tree multi-scale simulations

- The human vascular system is incredibly complex, with **5 liters of blood traveling 60,000 miles in just 1 minute**

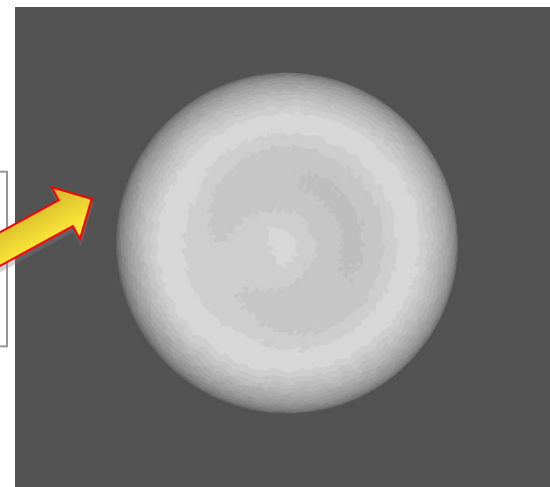
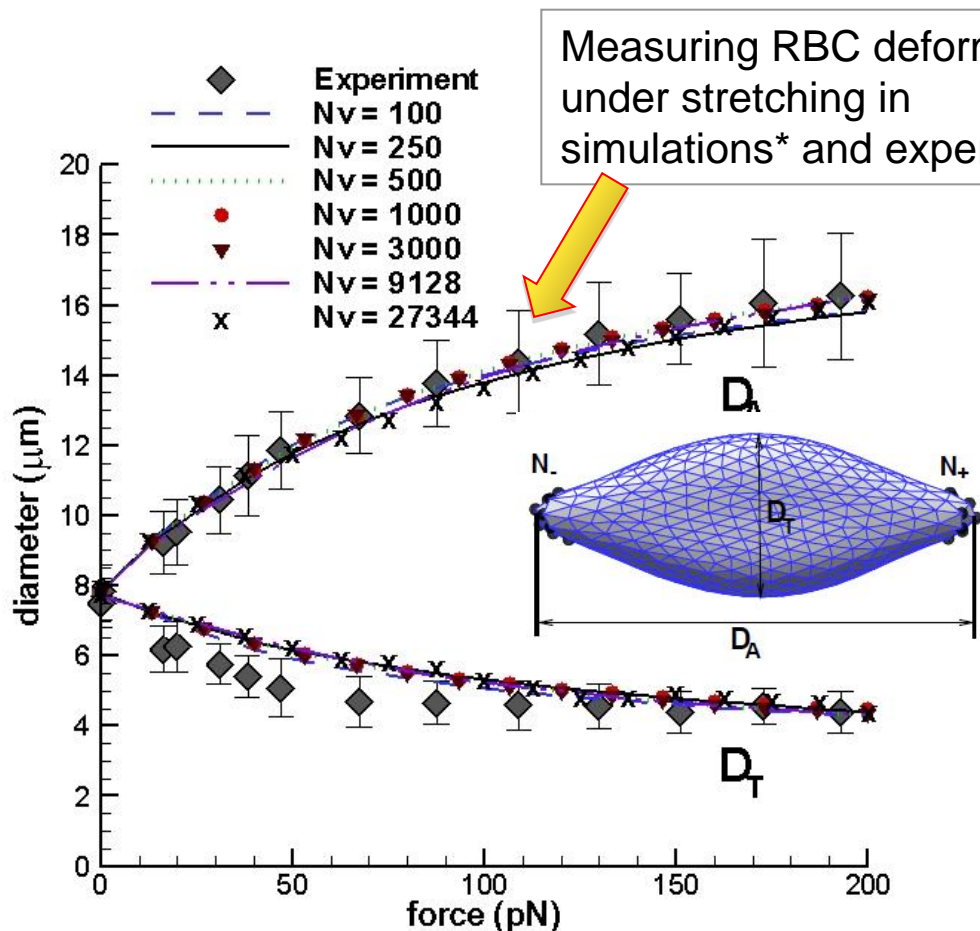
For modeling purposes, we subdivide the arterial system into three levels:

- 1)The **Macrovascular Network (MaN)**, which includes large arteries, down to a diameter of 0.5 mm
- 2)The **Mesovascular Network (MeN)**, which includes small arteries and arterioles, from 500 μm down to 10 μm
- 3)The **Microvascular Network (MiN)**, which represents the capillary bed

The success of applying CFD as a truly predictive tool depends on the ability to accurately simulate the *blood flow at all spatial scales*.



Atomistic modeling of blood cells: Validation



The blood cell model* implemented in DPD-LAMMPS has been verified in experiments**. Each red blood cell is represented by O(100) DPD particles in order to obtain physiologically correct dynamics.

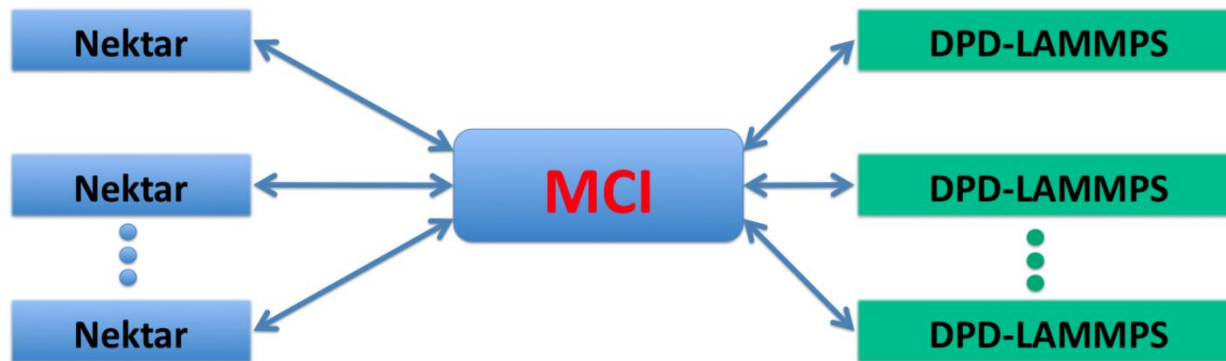
*Simulations: Fedosov et al., *Biophysical Journal*, 98(10):2215–2225, 2010.

**Experiment: - Suresh et al., *Acta Biomaterialia*, 1:15-30, 2005



Multi-scale modeling of blood clot formation

- We present the computational advances that have enabled multi-scale simulation of blood clot formation on 190,740 processors by coupling a high-order (spectral element) Navier-Stokes solver with a stochastic (coarse-grained) Molecular Dynamics solver based on Dissipative Particle Dynamics (DPD-LAMMPS)*.



*L. Grinberg *et. al.* *A new computational paradigm in multi-scale simulations: Application to brain blood flow.* To be presented at SC11, ACM Gordon Bell Finalist.



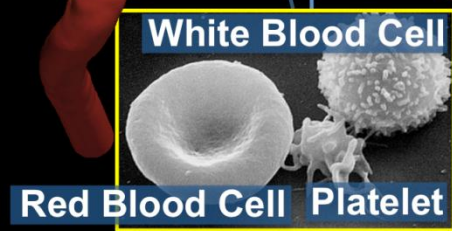
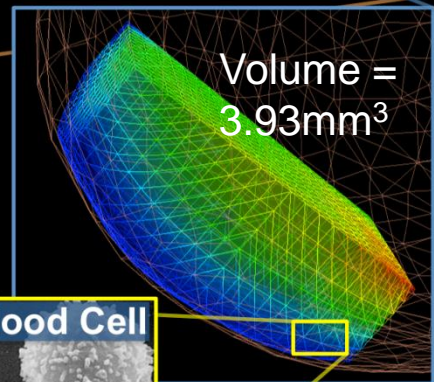
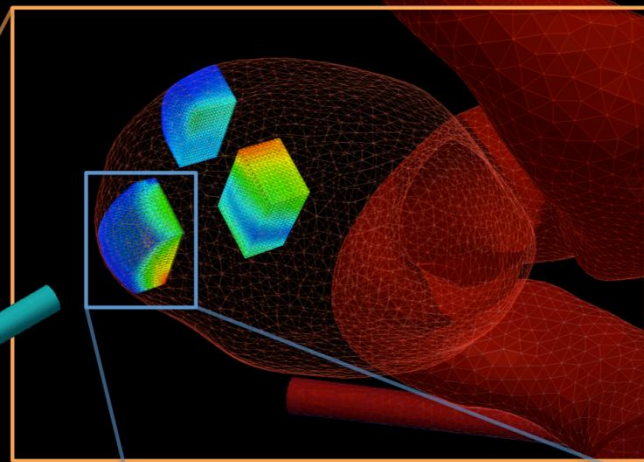
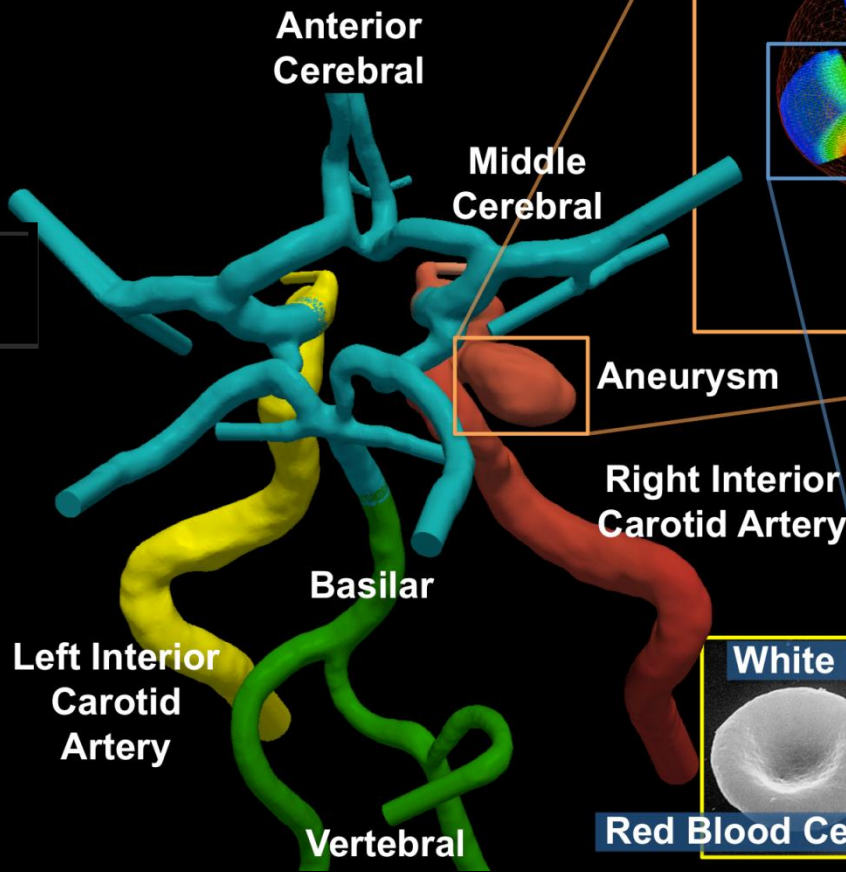
Coupled continuum-atomistic simulations

Multiscale Problem: From $O(10\text{cm})$ to $O(1\text{nm})$

The macro-scale dynamics in the brain arterial network (about 3 billion unknowns) are resolved by *Nektar* - a spectral element solver.

The micro-scale flow and cell dynamics within the aneurysm are resolved by an in-house version of DPD-LAMMPS (for an equivalent of about 100 billion molecules).

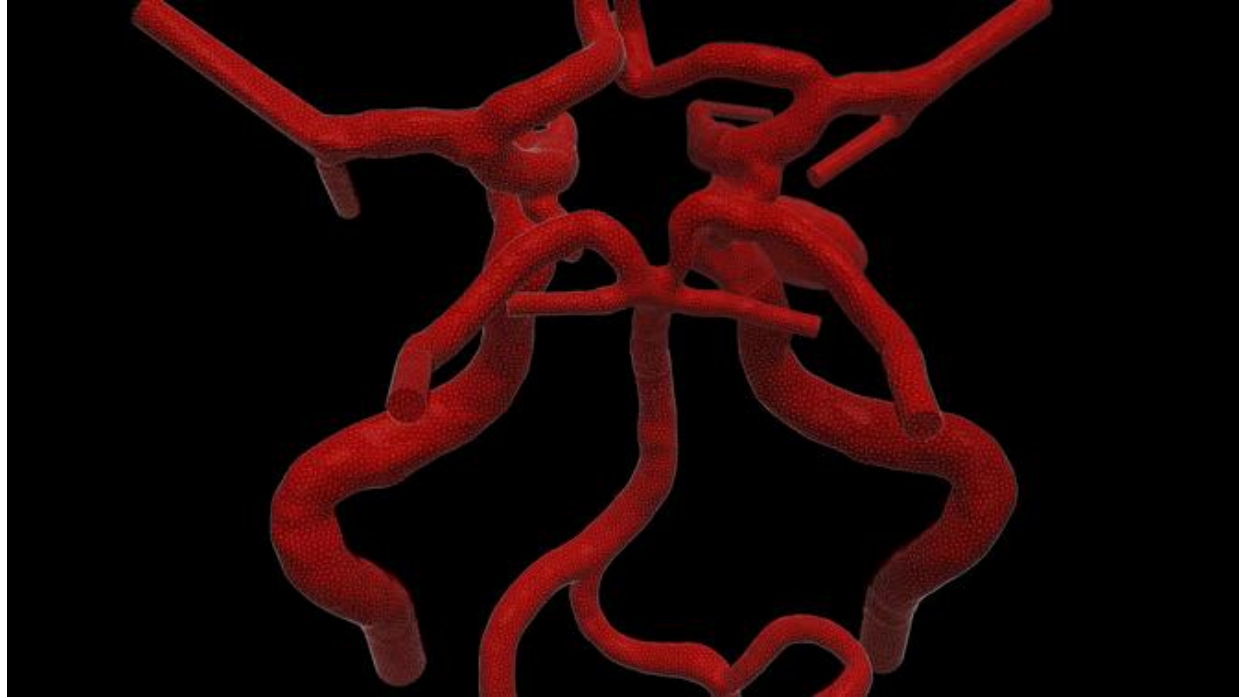
The two solvers are coupled through interface boundary conditions and communicate through a multi-level communicating interface.



Multi-scale modeling of blood clot formation

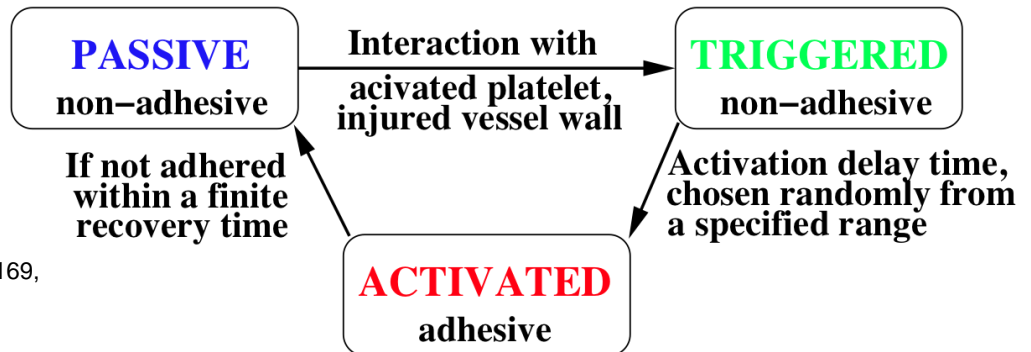
The animation shows:

- 1) Patient-specific geometry of brain vasculature with an aneurysm.
- 2) Streamlines inside the aneurysm depicting the large scale flow patterns.
- 3) A sub-region inside the aneurysm where atomistic solver has been applied for platelet aggregation simulation.
- 4) Platelets transition from a passive to active state and aggregation of platelets at the wall of the aneurysm^{*,**}.

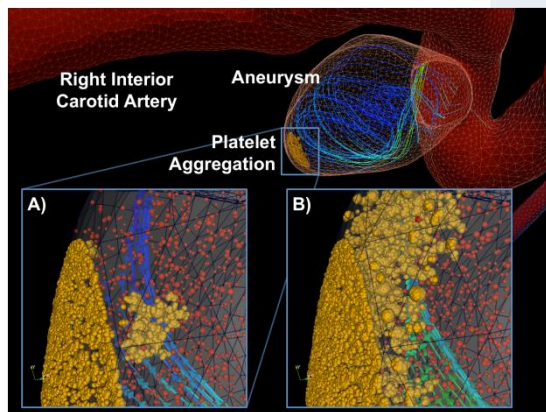


*P. Richardson and G. Born. *Activation time of blood platelets*. J. Membrane Biology, 57:87–90, 1980.

**I. V. Pivkin, P. D. Richardson, and G. E. Karniadakis. *Blood flow velocity effects and role of activation delay time on growth and form of platelet thrombi*. PNAS USA, 103(46):17164–17169, 2006



Coupled continuum-atomistic solver: Scaling



Blood clot formation. Yellow spheres represent activated platelets

Ncore (DPD-LAMMPS+Nektar)	CPU-time [s]	efficiency
BlueGene/P (ANL)		
28,672 + 4,096	3506	reference
61,440 + 4,096	1400	1.07
126,976 + 4,096	666	1.02
CRAY XT5 (NICS, ORNL)		
17,280 + 4,116	2194	reference
25,920 + 4,116	1177	1.24
34,560 + 4,116	763 (806)	1.15
93,312 + 4,116	226 (280)	1.25 (1.07)
186,624 + 4,116	(206)	(0.68)

Continuum domain: 425K spectral elements
(1B d.o.f with P=6; 3.2B d.o.f with P=10)

Atomistic domain: 823,079,981 DPD particles

CPU time for 200 Nektar's (4,000 DPD-LAMMPS)
time-steps + I/O





KRAKEN

Contact

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Computations were performed on the CRAY XT5
of NICS and ORNL, and BlueGene/P of ANL

Support was provided by DOE grant DE-AC02-06CH11357, and INCITE award; NSF grants OCI-0636336 and
OCI-0904190; NIH grant R01HL094270

Special thanks to Phil Andrews for his support for simulations at NICS



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