Plant Bioinformatics, Systems and Synthetic Biology Summer school

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Components of a virtual tissue

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Growth areas in plants



Phyllotaxy











Architectural diversity and plasticity



environment:



Araucaria (Ph. X. Grosfeld)

Two main approaches



(Caraglio et al., 2000)

• Descriptive





(Renton et al., 2005)

Mixed stochastic/mechanical model



(Costes et al., J. Exp Bot, 2006)

Meristem



Shoot apical meristem



What do we know about meristem growth?

• Phyllotaxy / Phenotypes



• Auxin as a morphogene



Organ generation in the *pin*1 mutant

• Apex geometry





• Auxin is transported actively



Immunolabelling of PIN-FORMED1 protein

• Gene activity / cell identity







A complex dynamic system with dynamic structure $(DS)^2$

| Physiology | changes Form | which changes Physiology |
|------------|--|--------------------------|
| Р | Dynamic interaction hysiology with feedback | Form |

Building of a virtual meristem



Real-time live-imaging confocal microscopy

- Plant is grown on soil
- Apical meristem is placed on growth medium
- Older flowers are removed
- Imaged on a confocal







3D meristem reconstruction

3D restitution of a stack of images : a set of "voxels"





J. Traas (ENS-Lyon)

- Automatic labelling of meristem cells
- Automatic identification of cell lineage
- Building a geometric model of the tissue

Building a surface representation



Parametric model of the surface



Parametric envelope of each cut

Swung Nurbs interpolated from all vertical cuts

Carpel development first stages (1-7) (Continuous model of the surface)



Automatic reconstruction at cell resolution

• 2 problems:

• Microscope anisotropy

• Tissue thickness





Romain Fernandez PhD programme

- Images taken from different angles
- → Algorithms to merge the images



3D reconstruction of meristem

-3D registration

- watershed (with automatic seedling of cells)





Collab. EPIAsclepios (G. Malandain) Arabidopsis, ENS-Lyon (J. Traas, P. Das)



Extracting labelled cells (GFP)



Quatification of shape development



Automatic segmentation and cell lineage



(PhD Work of Romain Fernandez)



Automatic detection of cell lineage



Automatic detection of cell lineage



$$\Gamma(M) = \sum_{M} \gamma_{ij} + \sum_{\bar{I}_{M}} \gamma_{I} + \sum_{\bar{J}_{M}} \gamma_{J}$$
$$M^{*} = \underset{M \text{ valid}}{\operatorname{arg min}} \Gamma(M)$$



PhD Romain Fernandez (col. Asclepios INRIA, ENS-Lyon, CIRAD-DAP)

Building mesh representations from segmented images (J. Chopard, R Fernandez)





Reconstructed 3D mesh

Building virtual maps



Coll. ENS-Lyon (J. Traas, F Monéger)

Definition of a querying language (J. Chopard)

Definition of zones:



Geometry:

Fixed:

Topology:

$$CZ = Sphere(\ll top \gg, L1 = [cell1, ..., cellN] L2 = (4, \ll cells \gg)) L1 = [cell1, ..., cellN] L2 = Expand(L1) - L1$$

Pattern definition



Python code:

def pattern_CLV3 (stade) : if stade == 3 : return CZ & (L1 + L2)



Building virtual maps (atlases)

Post-doc J. Chopard



Building of a virtual meristem



Organ phyllotaxy at the SAM



Photo: Jan Traas

Phyllotaxis models

• Three kinds of approaches

Geometrical



(Bravais & Bravais,1837)





Physiological



(Hofmeister, 1868) (Snow and Snow, 1962)

Auxin transport perturbation

Perturbed auxin transport is correlated with perturbed organ formation in the *pin-formed1* mutant









pin 1

pin 1

The local application of auxin induces organ formation in pin1



(Reinhardt et al. 2000)



High concentrations of auxin induce organ initiation
Active transport of Auxin The PIN-FORMED1 protein (PIN1) is an efflux carrier





(Gälweiler et al. 1998) (Steinmann et al. 1999)

Immunolabelling of PIN1 protein

Expression pattern and protein distribution of PIN1



mRNA (Vernoux et al. 2000)

PIN1 antibody (anti-peptide) (Traas)

PIN1 is present in the L1 layer throughout the meristem and in the (pro)vascular strands of the young primordia

Indirect sensing of auxin by DR5::GFP

Promoter activated by auxin responsive transcription factors



Bright green : DR5::GFP

Qualitative model of auxin transport at the SAM



(Reinhardt et al. 2003)



Simplified model of auxin transport

- No AUX/LAX influx transporter
- No apoplastic compartment



Modelling auxin transport at the SAM

(Barbier de Reuille, PNAS, 2006)





Network of "pumps"

Original image





Modeling transport

Description of the spatial variation of a quantity u(x,t):



Local conservation equation:

Change in localRate of localRate ofRate of netconcentration=creation-destruction+per unit time----environment

$$\frac{\partial u(x,t)}{\partial t} = \delta - \gamma u(x,t) + f(x,y,t)_{y \in V(x)}$$

(Partial Differential Equation, PDE)

Diffusion equation

Flux:

 $\Phi(x,t)$ # particles crossing a unit area at x per unit time

Fick's law (eg. Heat, Osmotic diffusion):

$$\vec{\Phi}(x,t) = -\alpha \frac{\partial u(x,t)}{\partial x} = -\alpha \, \vec{\nabla} u$$



Conservation equation:

local variation of concentration = spatial variation of flux



$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} = -\frac{\partial \Phi}{\partial x}$$
$$= -\frac{\partial}{\partial x}(-\alpha \frac{\partial u}{\partial x}) = \alpha \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} = \alpha \Delta u$$

Diffusion: passive transport

Diffusion equation



Diffusion in 2D

Diffusion equation (eg. Heat, Osmotic diffusion)

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} = \alpha \, \Delta u$$



$$\frac{u_{i,j}(t+k) - u_{i,j}(t)}{k} = \alpha \frac{\left(u_{i-1,j}(t) + u_{i+1,j}(t) + u_{i,j-1}(t) + u_{i,j+1}(t) - 4u_{i,j}(t)\right)}{h^2}$$

$$= \frac{\alpha}{h^2} \sum_{n \in V(m)} (u_n - u_m)$$



Active transport

 $P_{i,j}$ Strength of the PIN transporter in membrane *i* to *j*



auxin molecules imported
during dt from cell j into cell i :

 $\alpha P_{j,i}a_j(t)$

auxin molecules *exported* during *dt* from cell *i* to *j* :

 $\alpha P_{i,j}a_i(t)$

Net result of active transport :

$$\frac{\partial a_i(t)}{\partial t} = \alpha \sum_{j \in V(i)} (P_{j,i}a_j(t) - P_{i,j}a_i(t))$$

Auxin transport hypotheses

• Active and passive transport

Diffusion Active transport Degradation Production

$$\frac{\partial a_i(t)}{\partial t} = D\Delta a_i(t) + \alpha \sum_j (P_{j,i}a_j(t) - P_{i,j}a_i(t)) - \gamma a_i(t) + \delta$$

- Auxin enters the meristem at the periphery via L1 (Reinhardt et al. 2003) and/or is produced locally
- PIN1 is localized in L1, except at the level of primordia where it is also present in provascular tissues (Vernoux et al. 2000)
- Above a given threshold, auxin accumulation in the competence zone triggers the formation of primordia
- Above a given concentration, auxine is evacuated in the inner layers at the level of primordia through the provascular tissues, (Reinhardt et al. 2003)





Result of virtual auxin transport on digitized PIN1 maps



- Auxin accumulates at the primordia locations
- Auxin accumulates at the initium location
- Auxin accumulates in the center
- Accumulation patterns do not depend on the location of auxin production

Back to experiment ...

1. The center is not sensitive to auxin



DR5::GFP

Addition of auxin

2. Anti-auxin immunolabelling







What drives the polarization of PIN pumps ?

Integrating dynamics of tissue development

Allocation of PIN to membranes

$$\frac{\partial a_i(t)}{\partial t} = D\Delta a_i(t) + \alpha \sum_j (P_{j,i}a_j(t) - P_{i,j}a_i(t)) - \gamma a_i(t) + \delta$$

- Hypothesis 1:
 - Pumps are oriented so that local auxin spots are amplified (*concentration-based hypothesis*)

(Jönsson et al. 06, Smith et al., PNAS, 06)



$$P_{i,j} = P_i \frac{s_{i,j} \beta^{a_j(t)}}{\sum_j s_{i,j} \beta^{a_j(t)}}$$

(Smith et al., 06)

- P_i Available amount of PINs in cell *i*
- $S_{i,j}$ Surface between cell *i* and *j*

Simulating tissue growth



Constant speed

Linear speed

Simulating tissue growth

4

• Velocity Field

$$\vec{V} = \frac{d\vec{r}}{dt} = f(\vec{r},t)$$

- Division rules (Nakielski, ...)
 - Volume > threshold.





- Location and orientation of the new wall
 - Minimal length,
 - Right angle between new and old walls.



Concentration-based hypothesis



(Smith et al., PNAS, 06)

Candidate hypotheses

$$\frac{\partial a_i(t)}{\partial t} = D\Delta a_i(t) + \alpha \sum_j (P_{j,i}a_j(t) - P_{i,j}a_i(t)) - \gamma a_i(t) + \delta$$

- Hypothesis 1:
 - Pumps are oriented so that local auxin spots are amplified (*concentration-based hypothesis*)

(Jönsson et al. 06, Smith et al., PNAS, 06)

- Hypothesis 2:
 - Pumps are oriented so that fluxes are amplified (*canalization = flux-based hypothesis*) (Sachs 69, Mitchison 81, Feugier et al. 05, Rolland-Lagand et al. 05)





(Runions et al., SIGGRAPH, 05)

Could canalization explain auxin transport in the L1 layer ?



Flux-based hypothesis:

$$\frac{dP_{i,j}}{dt} = f(\phi_{i,j}) - \gamma P_{i,j} + \lambda$$









strong (canalization)

Flux-based polarization allows pumping *with* or *against* the auxin gradient



Pumping with the gradient (infinite sink strength)

Pumping against the gradient (finite sink strength)

Flux-based polarization may create dynamic patterning



Decreasing the threshold of primordia initiation



Weak flux-based polarization can create inhibitory fields

The size of the inhibitory field is a function of the feedback parameter (β)

$$\frac{\partial P_{i,j}}{\partial t} = \beta \Phi_{i,j} - \gamma P_{i,j} + \lambda$$



Simulation of auxin fluxes on digitized PIN1 maps

- Auxin is produced and degraded in each cell
- Diffusive and active transport
- Primordia are perfect sinks



Observed PIN1 maps

Simulated PIN1 maps (weak flux-based polarization)

Influence zone of a region

Definition: set of cells connected in the map with cells of a given region by an oriented path of pumps



Role of the central zone



Central zone has no distinct behaviour

Observed map

Central zone degrades auxin

Comparison of the influence zones

15% more pumps are correctly oriented (78% in total)



Dynamic simulation of phyllotaxy



Flux-based simulation of phyllotaxy



Simulated divergence angle



Simulation of the generation of provascular tissues


Flux-based simulation of vascularisation



Flux-based polarization makes it possible to pump both with and against the gradient

(Ottenschläger et al. PNAS, 03)







An alternative dual model

(Bayer et al., 2008)



Simulated PIN

Simulated Auxin

Experimental verification



Summary on transport

| | Concentration-based polarization | Flux-based polarization | |
|--|---|---|--|
| Phyllotaxis | YES (Smith et al. 06, Johnson et al. 06) | YES (weak FBP) (Stoma et al. 08) | |
| Venation patterns | Being investigated/Mixed model (Merks et al. 07), / (Bayer,08) | YES (strong FBP) (Mitchison 81, Rolland-Lagan 06, Runion 06, Feugier 05) | |
| Fountain model (root apex) | ? | YES (strong FBP) (Stoma et al. 08) | |
| Molecular interpretation | No | No | |
| Assessment (Phyllotaxis): | | | |
| Divergence angles | Ok | Ok | |
| Phyllotactic pattern stability | To improve | To improve | |
| Consistent with observed PIN maps | Partially/qualitative | Fairly consistent / quantitative if center degrades auxin (role?) | |
| Predicted event sequence | Maximum is maintained / Pumps pointing upwards initially | Maximum / leaks / minimum | |

Building of a virtual meristem



Mechanical aspects of growth



Cell-cell physical interactions ?





Local/Bottom up specification of growth

« The growing Canvas », The art of genes, E. Coen, 1999

« The genetics of geometry », (Coen et al, PNAS, 2004)

Shape as an emerging property of region growth ...



A general conceptual framework

« The genetics of geometry », (Coen et al, PNAS, 2004)

Alphabet of elementary geometric transformations :



Strain description



• Strain in 2D



Elementary transforms in mathematical terms

Decomposition of the strain tensor (2D) :



Development controlled by gene expression

« The genetics of geometry », (Coen et al, PNAS, 2004)



Modeling the growth of a petal shape

Integration of local changes



Deformation constraints



Different admissible solutions

Different combinations:

| 0 | 1 | new | 2 | 3 | |
|---|---|-----|---|---|--|
| 0 | 1 | new | 2 | 3 | |
| 0 | 1 | new | 2 | 3 | |

Cost of a deformation (Energy)

Physical interpretation:



Total energy of a transformation



Solution : transformation with minimum energy



$$W^* = \min_{a \in \mathcal{A}} \sum_{i \in a} W_i$$

Use of integration methods:

- mass-spring systems
- finite elements

Mechanics and Differential growth



- Each region grows isotropically



- Geometric anisotropy results from global constraints

Residual stresses



Solution: introduce a feedback of the stress on the growth

Cell wall

- Cell wall :
 - Main determinant of cell shape
 - Regularly synthesized by the cell
 - Composed of bundles of microfibrils linked together by elastic links





- Mechanical aspects:
 - Each microfibril resist axial load
 - Resistance perpendicular to microfibrils is less important
 - Turgor pressure induces cell wall strain



Individual cell growth



• Cell is elastically deformed by turgor pressure

$$\sigma = P_{\pi} \mathbf{I} = \begin{bmatrix} P_{\pi} & 0 \\ 0 & P_{\pi} \end{bmatrix} \qquad \varepsilon_{\pi} = \sigma_{\pi} E^{-1} = P_{\pi} \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{E_{x}} & 0 \\ 0 & \frac{1}{E_{y}} \end{bmatrix}$$

Stress in the region

Elastic strain (Hook's law)

Individual cell growth

• Cell deformation



• Growth induces plastic deformations



Taking into account cell growth



Mechanical interpretation of growth parameters

Growth strain of the reference configuration:



• Scaling represents the relative variation of volume $\frac{V-V_{ref}}{V_{ref}}$

•Anisotropy distributes the growth along the principal axes

Simulation

• Without retroaction







Role of microtubules in growth



Microtubules re-orient according to main stresses (Hamant et al., Sience, 2008)

Cell growth decomposition

Cell growth is controled by 2 factors :

• Growth intensity (e.g hormone concentration, gene activity)



• Growth anisotropy (polarization of microtubules)



Modeling cell mechanics

Testing the hypothesis: microtubules re-orient according to main stress



(Hamant et al., Science 2008)

Simulation of the PIN experiment



PhD Szymon Stoma

Building of a virtual meristem



How genes control shape development?



Gene networks



Gene interaction network:

$$X(t+1) = F(X(t))$$



- Stable ?

- Attractors ?

Cell identity = 1 stable state

Gene Regulatory Networks

Example: <u>Auxin perception</u> (collab. T. Vernoux):

Auxin regulates gene expression via a network of protein-protein interactions



Product variation described by differential equations

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{da_1}{dt} &= \pi_1 r + 2k'_{11}d_{11} - 2k_{11}a_1^2 + k'_{12}d_{12} - k_{12}a_1a_2 - \delta_1(x)a_3\\ \frac{da_2}{dt} &= \pi_2 + 2k'_{22}d_{22} - 2k_2a_2^2 + k'_{12}d_{12} - k_{12}a_1a_2 - \delta_2a_2\\ \frac{d(d_{11})}{dt} &= k_{11}a_1^2 - (k'_{11} + \delta_{11})d_{11}\\ \frac{d(d_{12})}{dt} &= k_{12}a_1a_2 + \beta'_{12}g_{12} - \beta_{12}gd_{12} - (k'_{12} + \delta_{12})d_{12}\\ \frac{d(d_{22})}{dt} &= k_{22}a_2^2 + \beta'_{22}g_{22} - \beta_{22}gd_{22} - (k'_{22} + \delta_{22})d_{22}\\ \frac{dr}{dt} &= h(g_{22}) - \delta_r r\\ \frac{dg_{22}}{dt} &= \beta_{12}gd_{12} - \beta'_{12}g_{12}\\ g &= 1 - g_{12} - g_{22}\end{aligned}$$

Where : a1 (resp. a2) denotes IAA (resp. ARF) concentration, and dij (resp. gij) the corresponding free (resp. DNA bound) dimers.

The function h for mRNA (r) production is Michaelis-Menten or Hill like.

Stationary state of differential equations


Scaling up : a network of network



 $X_i(t+1) = F(X_i(t), \{X_j(t)\}_{j \in N(i)})$

Multiscale Gene Regulatory Networks

Multiscale gene interaction networks (Y. Refahi PhD):

- implementation of 3D simulation tools
- meristem reconstruction & representation





Building of a virtual meristem



5 – Structure-function integration

• Integrate processes at different time scales

Pin orientation << Auxin flux << cell growth ~ mechanics

- Dealing with missing information
 - design choices, bibliography, sensitivity analysis
 - model inversion : X=M(p). For X_0 find p_0 such that $|X_0-M(p_0)|$ is minimum
- Programming language for $(DS)^2$

Procedural vs declarative languages (MGS, L-Systems, VV, ...)



trans div = $\{x \mid dividing(x) \Rightarrow child(x,1), child(x,2)\}$

A first approach of carpel development



Growth Simulation (real time =10h)



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