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**Insilico Pharmacology** 









From Organ Scale to the Molecular

Molecular Scale 介 🛛 📷

Objective: Next Generation Pharmacological Models For Targeted Drug Delivery

## Outline

- Nanocarrier Binding Affinity
- Validation of Binding In Vivo
- Mean-Field Hydrodynamic Models of NC Motion
- Towards a System Wide Pharmacological Model
- Rigorous Treatment of Hydrodynamic Interactions



## Minimal Model for Nanocarrier Adhesion

# Objective: How do we quantify NC binding avidity to cells mediated by antibody-antigen interactions?



- Spherical 100nm NCs coated with uniformly distributed N<sub>ab</sub> antibodies (Ab). The saturation Ab surface coverage (100%)  $\sigma_s$ =220Ab/NC in experiments.
- Antibody-antigen interaction is treated using the Bell model:

$$\Delta G_r(d) = \Delta G_0 + \frac{1}{2}k_0d^2$$
  $k_0$ : bond force constant

- Antigen flexure accounted for by orientational-bias MC sampling of  $\theta$  and  $\varphi$ 



### Avidity: Absolute Free Energy of Binding of NC to Cells Potential of Mean Force (PMF)

The binding avidity or association constant K<sub>a</sub> directly measures the binding efficiency, for reaction





## Potential of Mean Force ( $\sigma_s$ =75%, 162Abs)





## NC Dissociation Constant, K<sub>d</sub>



Zero-fit model predictions are consistent with in vitro cellular experiments



### Effect of Flow on NC Adhesion: Shear Enhanced Binding and Rolling Behavior

J. Liu, et al., Biophys J, 2011



Model predicts shear-thresholding even without catch bonds



## Effect of Nanocarrier Surface Coverage $\sigma_s$ (# antibodies per NC)



A threshold at  $\sigma_s \sim 45\%$  (100Ab/NC), the binding affinity abruptly drops below that of single antibody to antigen  $\left| K_{a} = \frac{(N_{ab} / N_{b}) \Delta \omega}{8\pi^{2}} \times \frac{A_{R,b}^{(1)} \times A_{R,b}^{(2)} \times \dots \times A_{R,b}^{(N_{b})}}{A_{R,b}^{(1)} \times A_{R,b}^{(2)} \times \dots \times A_{R,b}^{(N_{b})}} \times A_{NC,b} \int e^{-\beta W(z)} dz \right|$ 

Liu et al. (2010) PNAS 107 16530-16535

- Linear dependence below and above the threshold at fixed multivalency, dotted lines.
- Exponential reduction because of the multivalency change (from 3 to 2) around  $\sigma_s \sim 45\%$

#### Model predictions are consistent with results of in vivo mice experiments



## **Tissue Selectivity Predictions**



Reduction of nanoparticle avidity enhances the selectivity of vascular targeting and PET detection of pulmonary inflammation



### Targeting Live Cells: Role of Cell Membrane Undulations in Nanocarrier Adhesion



Membrane undulations are simulated using dynamically triangulated Monte Carlo.

- Membrane Fluidity impacts Targeting
- Intracellular Signaling impacts Targeting
- Carrier Internalization is coupled to Targeting



Membrane Properties

(a) Bending rigidity
(b) Surface tension
(c) Excess surface area

Our model quantifies how membrane mobility and surface curvature affect nanocarrier (NC) binding

### Effect of Excess Membrane Area and Undulations on Multivalency



Excess surface area in the membrane promotes higher multivalent binding

Presence of excess membrane area can significantly impact nanocarrier binding to the cell membrane and can promote wrapping of cargo which is extremely important in uptake of nanocarriers by cells.

### Polyvalent Interactions Between NC and Live Cells in Flow



$$E[\theta(\mathbf{s})] = \sum_{i=1}^{N} \frac{\xi_{P}(\Delta \theta_{i})^{2} k_{B} T}{2\Delta s} + \vec{\mathbf{f}}_{i} \cdot \overrightarrow{\Delta \mathbf{r}}_{i} + \vec{\mathbf{T}}_{i} \cdot \overrightarrow{\Delta \psi}_{i},$$

### **Next-Generation Pharmacodynamic Models in Personalized Medicine**





#### Nanoscale Hydrodynamics

- Mean-field models: Dynamical Density Functional Theory
- Rigorous Hydrodynamic Interaction: Brownian dynamics and direct numerical simulations

#### Nanoscale Adhesion

- Generalized Langevin equations for NC binding and tethering relaxation
- Direct parameterization using single molecule experiments or microscopic simulations

How do hydrodynamic interactions, Brownian forces, and ligand-receptor relaxations affect the Nanocarrier adhesion

Objective: To develop easily computable yet physiologically *predictive next-generation pharmacodynamic models* for targeted drug delivery to treat scales ranging from vasculature hydrodynamics to ligand-receptor mediated NC adhesion at organ scale



Generalized Langevin Dynamics for Functionalized Nanocarrier Adhesion to Cell Surfaces in the Presence of Hydrodynamic Interactions



## Fluid Dynamics of Targeted Drug Delivery

#### **Microscale Transport**



Margination of "smaller particles" predicted by hydrodynamic simulations:
Crowl and Fogelson, J. Fluid Mech., 2011
Zhao and Sheqfeh, Phys. Rev. E, 2011
Tan et al., Soft Matter, 2012
Kumar and Graham, Phys. Rev. Lett., 2012

Length scales for TDD:
20 ~ 50 μm vessels
1 ~ 8 μm blood cells
100 nm ~ 1 μm nanocarriers

- Binding affinity predicted by Monte Carlo simulations validated *in vivo* and *in vitro*: Jin et al., *PNAS*, 2010

Length scales for TDD:
 100 nm ~ 1 μm nanocarriers
 15 ~ 20 nm ligands and receptors

Challenge: How can we bridge the hydrodynamic and adhesion length scales in a tractable computational model?



Fast and Easily Computable Approach for Multiscale Bridging of NC Hydrodynamics and Adhesion



Incorporate RBC-driven margination effect for more transparent clinical design **Dynamic density-functional theory for RBC cross-vessel distribution** 

$$\rho_{RBC}(\mathbf{r}') \qquad \Phi_{RBC}(\mathbf{r}) = \int_{V} \rho_{RBC}(\mathbf{r}') \langle \phi \rangle_{1}(\mathbf{r},\mathbf{r}') d\mathbf{r}' \qquad \text{Mean-field approach}$$

Incorporate transient dynamics of NC for in the presence of receptor protein relaxation Generalized Langevin equations for NC-endothelium adhesive dynamics

$$C_{v}(t) = \frac{\langle U(t)U(0)\rangle}{\langle k_{B}T/m_{p}\rangle}$$

Velocity autocorrelation

$$C_{x}(t) = \frac{\left\langle \delta x(t) \delta x(0) \right\rangle}{\delta x(0)^{2}}$$

Position autocorrelation

Position probability distribution



## Thermodynamic Perspective of RBC Distribution

#### **Complex blood flow**



#### Effective hard-sphere-like RBC model



#### Data for arterioles and venules

Vessel diameter: D (µm) <sup>[1]</sup>	20–50
Average velocity: U <sub>av</sub> (cm/s) <sup>[1]</sup>	0.2–5
<b>RBC hematocrit: H<sub>ct</sub><sup>[2]</sup></b>	0.2–0.3
Relative viscosity: $\mu_{rel} = \mu / \mu_{plasma}^{[3]}$	1.5–1.8

[1] Mazumdar, *Biofluid Mechanics*, 2004

[2] Oshima et al., *Curr. Pharm. Biotechnol.*, 2012

[3] Pries et al, Circ. Rec., 1994

#### Data for hard sphere suspension

Volume fraction: $\phi_{b}^{[4]}$	0.15–0.2
Cell diameter: σ (μm)	4.3–5.2
D/σ	3.8–11.6

[4] Batchelor and Green, J. Fluid Mech., 1972

$$\mu_{rel} = 1 + 2.5\phi_b + 7.6\phi_b^2$$

The physiological data summarized here provide a consistent and unambiguous scheme to define the parameters of our model without any additional fitting



## Dynamic Density-Functional Theory (DDFT) for a Hard-Sphere Model

N-particle Smoluchowski equation

$$\frac{\partial P_N}{\partial t} + \nabla \cdot \mathbf{j}_N = 0 \qquad \mathbf{j}_N = \mathbf{U} P_N + \frac{\mathbf{D}}{k_B T} \cdot \left(\mathbf{F}^P - k_B T \nabla \ln P_N\right) P_N$$

Averaging over configuration of N-1 particles (mean-field model)

$$\frac{\partial \rho(\mathbf{r},t)}{\partial t} + \nabla \cdot \left[ \rho(\mathbf{r},t) \langle \mathbf{U} \rangle_{1}(\mathbf{r},t) \right] = \nabla \cdot \left[ \frac{\langle \mathbf{D} \rangle_{1}(\mathbf{r})}{k_{B}T} \cdot \rho(\mathbf{r},t) \nabla \frac{\partial \Omega[\rho(\mathbf{r},t)]}{\delta \rho(\mathbf{r},t)} \right]$$
$$\langle \mathbf{U} \rangle_{1} = \langle \mathbf{U}^{0} \rangle_{1} + \langle \mathbf{U}' \rangle_{1}$$

Particle migration due to inertial lift

$$\langle \mathbf{U}' \rangle_{1} = \frac{D_{0}^{\perp}}{k_{B}T} \langle \mathbf{f}_{1} \rangle_{1}$$

$$\Rightarrow \nabla \cdot \left[ \rho(\mathbf{r}) \langle \mathbf{U}' \rangle_{1}(\mathbf{r}) \right] = \nabla \cdot \left[ \frac{D_{0}^{\perp}}{k_{B}T} \rho(\mathbf{r}) \nabla \frac{\partial \Omega[\rho(\mathbf{r})]}{\partial \rho(\mathbf{r})} \right]$$

**D**: diffusivity tensor  $\Omega$ : Grand potential  $\langle \mathbf{U}^0 \rangle_1$ : average flow field set up by N-1 particles  $\langle \mathbf{U}' \rangle_1$ : perturbation due to Nth particle

- (1) Equilibrium grand potential functional
- (2) "Hydrodynamically dilute" for motion of test particle given an average flow field

(3)  $\rho = \rho_b w/o V_{ext}$  and  $\langle f_1 \rangle_1$ Symmetric U(r) and  $\rho(r)$ 

#### Steady-state particle distribution predicted from DDFT

$$\rho(\mathbf{r}) = \rho_b \exp\left\{c^{(1)}(\mathbf{r}) - c^{(1)}_b - \frac{V_{ext}(\mathbf{r})}{k_B T} + \int_0^r \frac{\langle f_1 \rangle_1(r')}{k_B T} dr'\right\}$$
$$c^{(1)}(\mathbf{r}) = -\frac{1}{k_B T} \frac{\delta F_{ex}[\rho(\mathbf{r})]}{\delta \rho(\mathbf{r})} \qquad c^{(1)}_b = -\frac{1}{k_B T} \frac{\partial F_{ex}(\rho_b)}{\partial \rho_b}$$

- -- Excess energy from smoothed density approx. by Tarazona (1985)
- -- Wall acts as external potential
- -- Hydrodynamic effect captured by work done by the lift force



Effect of Flow and Confinement: DDFT Predicts Flow-Dependent Cell Migration



Extension of HS model to disc or ellipsoidal shaped particles can be achieved either by suitable DDFT closure application for anisotropic particles or through Monte Carlo Simulations



## NC Adhesive Dynamics with Receptor Protein Frictional Relaxation

**1D Generalized Langevin Dynamics for an engineering model** 



![](_page_21_Picture_0.jpeg)

### Velocity Autocorrelation Function vs. **Position Fluctuation Autocorrelation Function**

![](_page_21_Figure_2.jpeg)

NC correlation functions are significantly impacted by the internal dynamics of the protein relaxation

![](_page_22_Picture_0.jpeg)

### Effects of RBC-Marginating Potential on NC Positional Distribution

![](_page_22_Figure_2.jpeg)

RBC-marginating potential affects binding potential energy of NC is and may influence the internal energy landscape of receptor protein

### (2) Computationally Demanding but Rigorous Approach: Full Hydrodynamic Consideration using Equation-Free Brownian Dynamics (BD) and Direct Numerical Simulations (DNS)

Inner layer: DNS for full hydrodynamic equations

$$\rho^{(f)} \left[ \frac{\partial \mathbf{u}}{\partial t} + (\mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla) \mathbf{u} \right] = -\nabla p + \nabla \cdot \boldsymbol{\tau} \qquad \nabla \cdot \mathbf{u} = 0$$

The mobility tensor is computed ab initio using DNS and the dynamics of particles are evolved using BD

Outer wrapper for type-1 particles:

coarse integration of equations of motion for blood cells

$$\Delta \mathbf{x}_{i}^{(1)} = \left\{ \mathbf{U}_{i}^{(1)} + \sum_{j=1}^{N_{1}} \left[ \frac{\mathbf{D}_{ij}^{(11)}}{k_{B}T} \cdot \mathbf{F}_{j}^{T1} + \nabla_{j} \cdot \mathbf{D}_{ji}^{(11)} \right] \right\} \Delta T_{1} \qquad \qquad \rho_{RBC}(\mathbf{r}, t)$$

Outer wrapper for type-2 particles: coarse integration of equations of motion for NC

Kevrekidis et al, *AIChE J.*, 2004 Brady and Bossis, *Ann. Rev. Fluid Mech.*, 1988; Banchio and Brady, *J. Chem. Phys.*, 2003

![](_page_24_Picture_0.jpeg)

Nanogel Internal Hydrodynamics

- Conformation
- Deformation with flow, adhesion
- Diffusivity, Structure relaxation

### Nano-gel under shear<sup>1</sup>

![](_page_25_Figure_1.jpeg)

Entanglement density = 100%

![](_page_25_Picture_3.jpeg)

Entanglement density = 160%

![](_page_25_Picture_5.jpeg)

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Entanglement density = 20%

![](_page_25_Figure_7.jpeg)

Entanglement density = 60%

![](_page_25_Figure_9.jpeg)

### Nanoscale Fluctuating Hydrodynamics: Direct Numerical Simulation (DNS) to Treat Hydrodynamic Interactions and Stochastic Fluctuations

Governing equations for the **Boundary conditions** fluid motion and rigid particles  $\mathbf{u} = 0 \text{ on } \left(\partial \Omega\right)_{u}$   $\sigma \cdot \mathbf{n} = 0 \text{ on } \left(\partial \Omega\right)_{\sigma}$  $\nabla \cdot \mathbf{u} = 0$  $\rho_f \frac{D\mathbf{u}}{Dt} = \rho_f \mathbf{f} + \nabla \cdot \boldsymbol{\sigma} = 0$  $\mathbf{u} = \mathbf{V}_i + \omega_i \times (\mathbf{x}_i - \mathbf{X}_i) \text{ for } \mathbf{x} \in \partial \Omega_i(t)$  $\sigma = -p\mathbf{I} + \mu \left[ \nabla \mathbf{u} + \left( \nabla \mathbf{u} \right)^T \right] + S \quad \text{(Random Stress)}$ (Landau and Lifshitz, *Fluid Mechanics*, 1959)  $m_i \frac{d\mathbf{U}_i}{dt} = -\int_{\partial \Omega_i(t)} \boldsymbol{\sigma} \cdot \mathbf{n} \, ds$  $\frac{d(\mathbf{I}_{i}\omega_{i})}{dt} = -\int_{\partial\Omega_{i}(t)} (\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{X}_{i}) \times (\boldsymbol{\sigma} \cdot \mathbf{n}) ds$ Initial conditions  $\mathbf{u} = \mathbf{u}_0$  on  $\Omega_0(0)$ 

 $\left\langle S_{ij} \right\rangle = 0; \left\langle S_{ik} \left( \mathbf{x}_{1}, t_{1} \right) S_{lm} \left( \mathbf{x}_{2}, t_{2} \right) \right\rangle = 2k_{B}T\mu \left( \delta_{il} \delta_{km} + \delta_{im} \delta_{kl} \right) \delta \left( \mathbf{x}_{1} - \mathbf{x}_{2} \right) \delta \left( t_{1} - t_{2} \right)$ 

### Hydrodynamic Interactions and Adhesive Interactions can be Simultaneously Modelled using Fluctuating Hydrodynamics

![](_page_27_Figure_1.jpeg)

![](_page_27_Figure_2.jpeg)

The Potential Mean Force (PMF) between NC and adhesive cell surfaces based on Metropolis Monte Carlo and the weighted histogram analysis method is compared with free energy obtained using fluctuating hydrodynamics and hybrid methods. The agreement is excellent. Radhakrishnan, Uma, Liu, Ayyaswamy, Eckmann, J. Comp. Phys, 2013

## **Multibody Hydrodynamic Interactions**

#### Data for arterioles and venues

Theoretical data	a	Calculation input
Vessel diameter: D (µm)	20–50	20
Average velocity: U <sub>av</sub>	0.2–5 cm/s	$U_{max}$ =10 <sup>4</sup> $\mu$ m/s
<b>RBC hematocrit: H<sub>ct</sub></b>	0.2–0.3	
Relative viscosity: μ <sub>rel</sub> =μ/μ <sub>plasma</sub>	1.5–1.8	5.6 10 <sup>6</sup> µm²/s

#### Data for hard sphere suspension

Volume fraction: $\phi_{b}$	0.15–0.2	0.17 (0.1, 0.15, 0.2)
Cell diameter: σ (μm)	4.3-5.2	5
D_pipe/d_part	3.8–11.6	4

![](_page_28_Figure_5.jpeg)

![](_page_28_Figure_6.jpeg)

![](_page_28_Figure_7.jpeg)

![](_page_29_Picture_0.jpeg)

# Towards a Pharmacological Model

- 3D generalized Langevin dynamics with membrane thermal fluctuations for NC rolling and internalization
- Combining with molecular dynamics of receptor protein for probing dynamic viscosity of confined water
- DDFT closure for anisotropic particles
- Better treatment of HI through the use of direct numerical simulations + Brownian Dynamics
- Realistic Adhesion Model for NC Avidity

## Support: NSF, NIH/NIBIB, XSEDE

ICAM-1

![](_page_29_Picture_9.jpeg)

![](_page_29_Picture_10.jpeg)

![](_page_29_Picture_11.jpeg)

Extreme Science and Engineering Discovery Environment

# **THANK YOU!**