

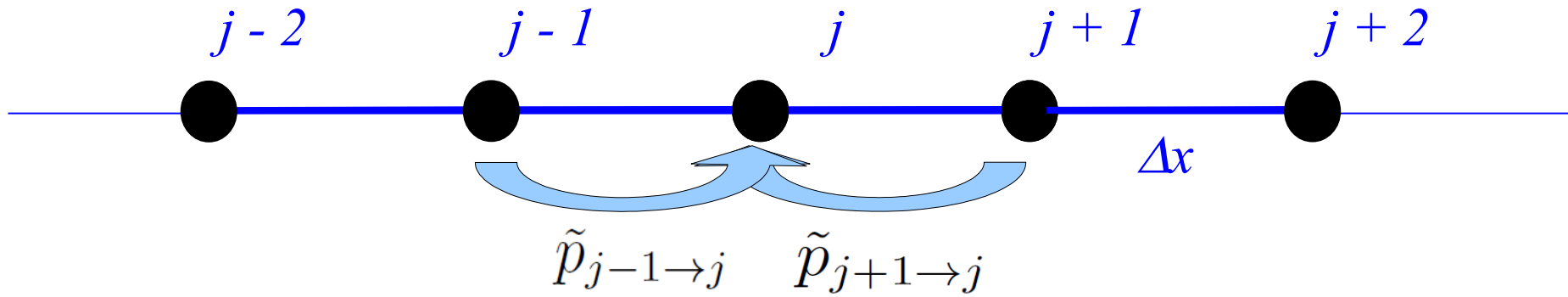


**POLITECNICO  
DI TORINO**

# Diffusion



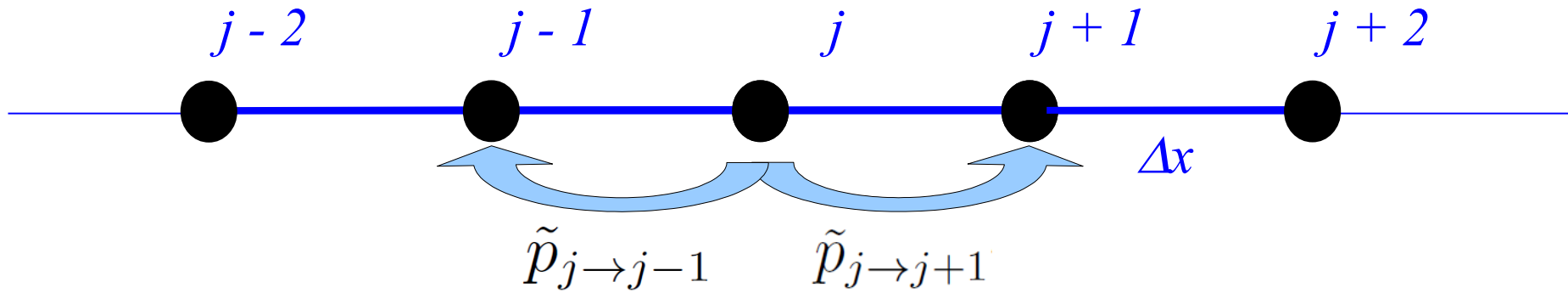
# Random walk



$$u_{i+1,j} = u_{i,j} + \tilde{p}_{j-1 \rightarrow j} u_{i,j-1} + \tilde{p}_{j+1 \rightarrow j} u_{i,j+1}$$



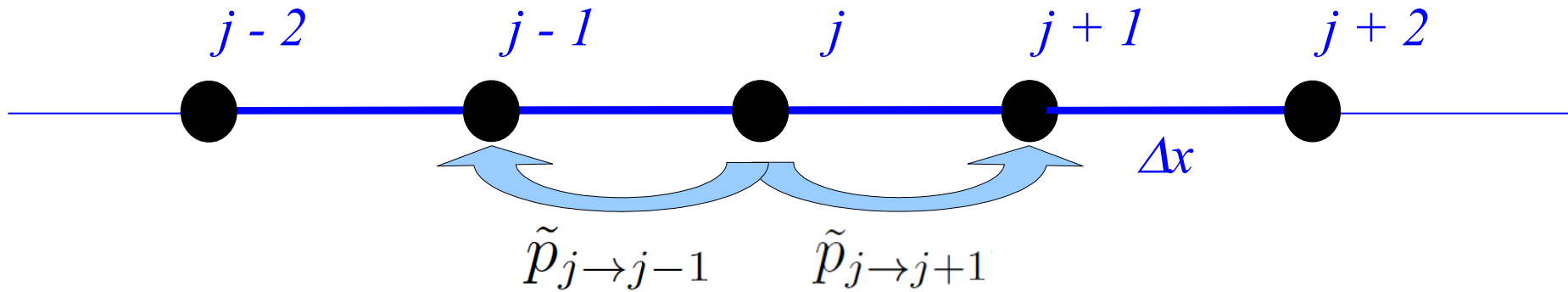
# Random walk



$$u_{i+1,j} = u_{i,j} + \tilde{p}_{j-1 \rightarrow j} u_{i,j-1} + \tilde{p}_{j+1 \rightarrow j} u_{i,j+1} - \tilde{p}_{j \rightarrow j-1} u_{i,j} - \tilde{p}_{j \rightarrow j+1} u_{i,j}$$



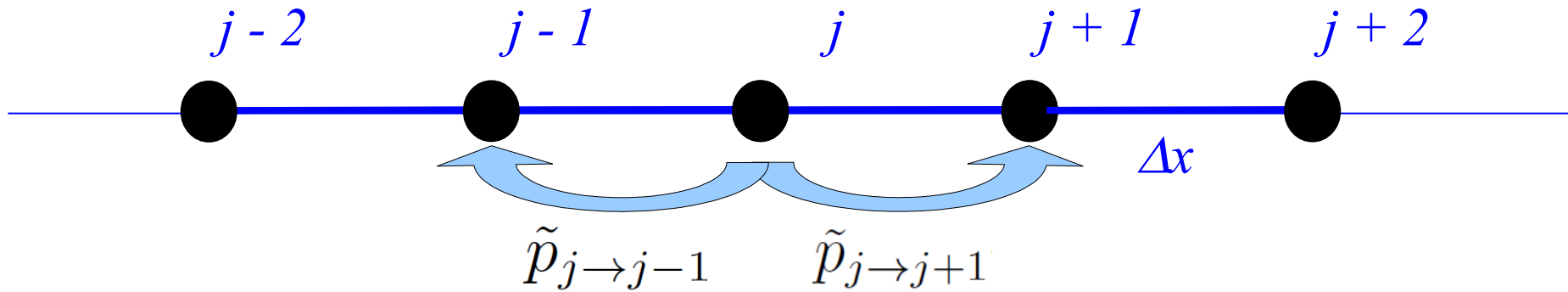
# Random walk



$$\begin{aligned} u_{i+1,j} &= u_{i,j} + \tilde{p}_{j-1 \rightarrow j} u_{i,j-1} + \tilde{p}_{j+1 \rightarrow j} u_{i,j+1} - \tilde{p}_{j \rightarrow j-1} u_{i,j} - \tilde{p}_{j \rightarrow j+1} u_{i,j} \\ &= u_{i,j} + \Delta t [p_{j-1 \rightarrow j} u_{i,j-1} + p_{j+1 \rightarrow j} u_{i,j+1} - (p_{j \rightarrow j-1} + p_{j \rightarrow j+1}) u_{i,j}] \end{aligned}$$



# Random walk



$$\begin{aligned} u_{i+1,j} &= u_{i,j} + \tilde{p}_{j-1 \rightarrow j} u_{i,j-1} + \tilde{p}_{j+1 \rightarrow j} u_{i,j+1} - \tilde{p}_{j \rightarrow j-1} u_{i,j} - \tilde{p}_{j \rightarrow j+1} u_{i,j} \\ &= u_{i,j} + \Delta t [p_{j-1 \rightarrow j} u_{i,j-1} + p_{j+1 \rightarrow j} u_{i,j+1} - (p_{j \rightarrow j-1} + p_{j \rightarrow j+1}) u_{i,j}] \end{aligned}$$

Per  $\Delta t \rightarrow 0$

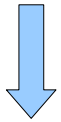
$$\frac{du_j}{dt} = p_{j-1 \rightarrow j} u_{j-1} + p_{j+1 \rightarrow j} u_{j+1} - (p_{j \rightarrow j-1} + p_{j \rightarrow j+1}) u_j$$



# Constant coefficients

$$\frac{du_j}{dt} = p_{j-1 \rightarrow j} u_{j-1} + p_{j+1 \rightarrow j} u_{j+1} - (p_{j \rightarrow j-1} + p_{j \rightarrow j+1}) u_j$$

If  $p_{j \rightarrow k} = \frac{D}{\Delta x^2} \longleftrightarrow \tilde{p}_{j \rightarrow k} = \frac{\Delta t}{\Delta x^2} D$



$$\frac{du_j}{dt} = \frac{D}{\Delta x^2} (u_{j-1} - 2u_j + u_{j+1}) \xrightarrow{\Delta x \rightarrow 0} \boxed{\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} = D \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2}}$$

$$u_{j+1} \approx u_j + \frac{\partial u_j}{\partial x} \Delta x + \frac{\partial^2 u_j}{\partial x^2} \frac{\Delta x^2}{2}$$

$$u_{j-1} \approx u_j - \frac{\partial u_j}{\partial x} \Delta x + \frac{\partial^2 u_j}{\partial x^2} \frac{\Delta x^2}{2}$$



# Looking here

$$\frac{du_j}{dt} = p_{j-1 \rightarrow j} u_{j-1} + p_{j+1 \rightarrow j} u_{j+1} - (p_{j \rightarrow j-1} + p_{j \rightarrow j+1}) u_j$$

If  $p_{j \rightarrow k} = \frac{D_j}{\Delta x^2}$   $\longleftrightarrow$   $\tilde{p}_{j \rightarrow k} = \frac{\Delta t}{\Delta x^2} D_j$

$$\frac{du_j}{dt} = \frac{1}{\Delta x^2} (D_{j-1} u_{j-1} - 2D_j u_j + D_{j+1} u_{j+1})$$

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} = \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2} [D(x)u]$$

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} - \frac{\partial}{\partial x} [D'(x)u] = \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left[ D(x) \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} \right]$$



# How can we get the diffusion equation?

$$\frac{du_j}{dt} = p_{j-1 \rightarrow j} u_{j-1} + p_{j+1 \rightarrow j} u_{j+1} - (p_{j \rightarrow j-1} + p_{j \rightarrow j+1}) u_j$$

$$? \frac{\partial u}{\partial t} = \nabla \cdot (D \nabla u) ?$$

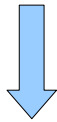




# Looking in the middle

$$\frac{du_j}{dt} = p_{j-1 \rightarrow j} u_{j-1} + p_{j+1 \rightarrow j} u_{j+1} - (p_{j \rightarrow j-1} + p_{j \rightarrow j+1}) u_j$$

If  $p_{j \rightarrow j \pm 1} = \frac{D_{j \pm \frac{1}{2}}}{\Delta x^2} \longleftrightarrow \tilde{p}_{j \rightarrow j \pm 1} = \frac{\Delta t}{\Delta x^2} D_{j \pm \frac{1}{2}}$



$$\frac{du_j}{dt} = \frac{1}{\Delta x^2} \left[ D_{j-\frac{1}{2}} u_{j-1} - \left( D_{j-\frac{1}{2}} + D_{j+\frac{1}{2}} \right) u_j + D_{j+\frac{1}{2}} u_{j+1} \right]$$

$$= \frac{1}{\Delta x^2} \left[ D_{j-\frac{1}{2}} (u_{j-1} - u_j) - D_{j+\frac{1}{2}} (u_j - u_{j+1}) \right]$$

$$\approx \frac{1}{\Delta x} \left[ D_{j+\frac{1}{2}} \frac{\partial u_{j+\frac{1}{2}}}{\partial x} - D_{j-\frac{1}{2}} \frac{\partial u_{j-\frac{1}{2}}}{\partial x} \right]$$

$$\approx \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left( D_j \frac{\partial u_j}{\partial x} \right)$$

$\Delta x \rightarrow 0$

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} = \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left( D(x) \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} \right)$$



# Looking in the middle

$$\text{If } p_{j \rightarrow j \pm 1} = \frac{D_{j \pm \frac{1}{2}}}{\Delta x^2} \longleftrightarrow \tilde{p}_{j \rightarrow j \pm 1} = \frac{\Delta t}{\Delta x^2} D_{j \pm \frac{1}{2}}$$

$$\downarrow$$
$$D_{j \pm \frac{1}{2}} \approx D_j \pm \frac{\partial D_j}{\partial x} \frac{\Delta x}{2}$$

$$\frac{du_j}{dt} \approx \frac{1}{\Delta x^2} \left[ \left( D_j - \frac{1}{2} \frac{\partial D_j}{\partial x} \Delta x \right) \left( u_j - \frac{\partial u_j}{\partial x} \Delta x + \frac{\partial^2 u_j}{\partial x^2} \frac{\Delta x^2}{2} \right) - 2D_j u_j \right.$$

$$\left. + \left( D_j + \frac{1}{2} \frac{\partial D_j}{\partial x} \Delta x \right) \left( u_j + \frac{\partial u_j}{\partial x} \Delta x + \frac{\partial^2 u_j}{\partial x^2} \frac{\Delta x^2}{2} \right) \right],$$

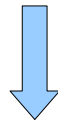
$$\approx \frac{\partial D_j}{\partial x} \frac{\partial u_j}{\partial x} + D_j \frac{\partial^2 u_j}{\partial x^2}, \quad \Delta x \rightarrow 0 \rightarrow$$

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} = \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left( D(x) \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} \right)$$



# Looking ahead

$$\text{If } p_{j \rightarrow j \pm 1} = \frac{D_{j \pm 1}}{\Delta x^2} \longleftrightarrow \tilde{p}_{j \rightarrow j \pm 1} = \frac{\Delta t}{\Delta x^2} D_{j \pm 1}$$



$$\frac{du_j}{dt} = \frac{1}{\Delta x^2} [D_j u_{j-1} - (D_{j-1} + D_{j+1}) u_j + D_j u_{j+1}]$$

$$D_{j \pm 1} = D_j \pm \frac{\partial D_j}{\partial x} \Delta x + \frac{\partial^2 D_j}{\partial x^2} \frac{\Delta x^2}{2}$$

$$D_{j-1} + D_{j+1} \approx 2D_j + \frac{\partial^2 D_j}{\partial x^2} \Delta x^2$$

$$u_{j-1} + u_{j+1} \approx 2u_j + \frac{\partial^2 u_j}{\partial x^2} \Delta x^2$$



# Looking ahead

$$\frac{du_j}{dt} \approx \frac{1}{\Delta x^2} \left[ D_j \left( 2u_j + \frac{\partial^2 u_j}{\partial x^2} \Delta x^2 \right) - \left( 2D_j + \frac{\partial^2 D_j}{\partial x^2} \Delta x^2 \right) u_j \right]$$

$$= D_j \frac{\partial^2 u_j}{\partial x^2} - \frac{\partial^2 D_j}{\partial x^2} u_j$$

↓  $\Delta x \rightarrow 0$

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial t}(x, t) = D(x) \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2}(x, t) - u(x, t) \frac{\partial^2 D}{\partial x^2}(x)$$

↓

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial}{\partial x} [D'(x)u] = \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left[ D(x) \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} \right]$$



# Summary

Looking here

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} = \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2} [D(x)u]$$

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} - \frac{\partial}{\partial x} [D'(x)u] = \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left[ D(x) \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} \right]$$

Looking in the middle

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} = \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left( D(x) \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} \right)$$

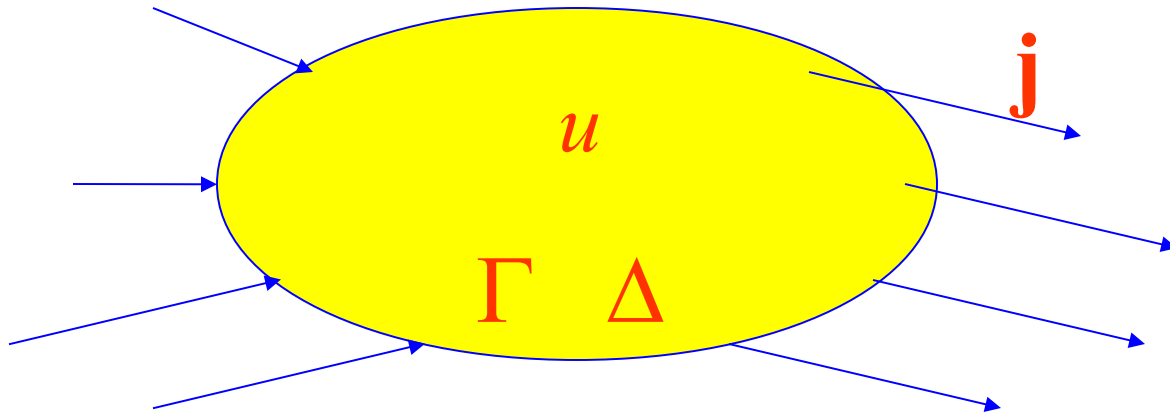
Looking ahead

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial t}(x, t) = D(x) \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2}(x, t) - u(x, t) \frac{\partial^2 D}{\partial x^2}(x)$$

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial}{\partial x} [D'(x)u] = \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left[ D(x) \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} \right]$$



# Diffusion equation



$$M = \int_V u dV$$

$$\frac{dM}{dt} = - \int_{\partial V} \mathbf{j} \cdot \mathbf{n} d\Sigma + \int_V (\Gamma - \Delta) dV$$

because of influx/outflux

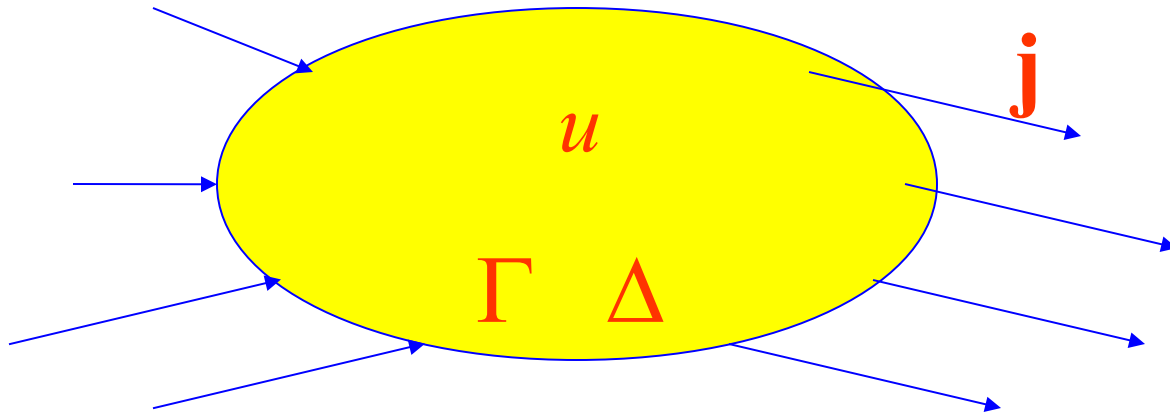
density of cells changes

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} + \nabla \cdot \mathbf{j} = \Gamma - \Delta$$

because of birth/death



# Diffusion equation



Fick's law  $\mathbf{j} = -D\nabla u \longrightarrow \frac{\partial u}{\partial t} = \nabla \cdot (D\nabla u)$

If  $D$  is constant  $\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} = D\nabla^2 u$

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} = D \left( \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y^2} + \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial z^2} \right)$$

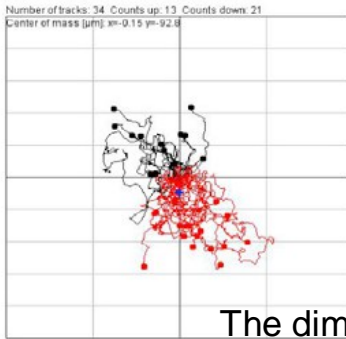


# Diffusion equation

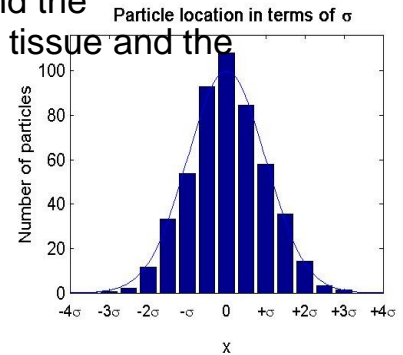
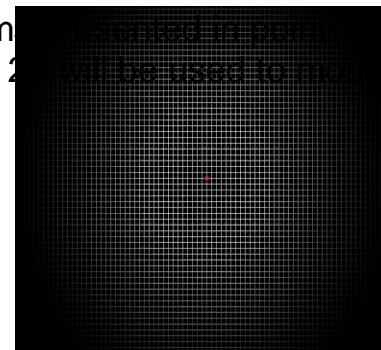
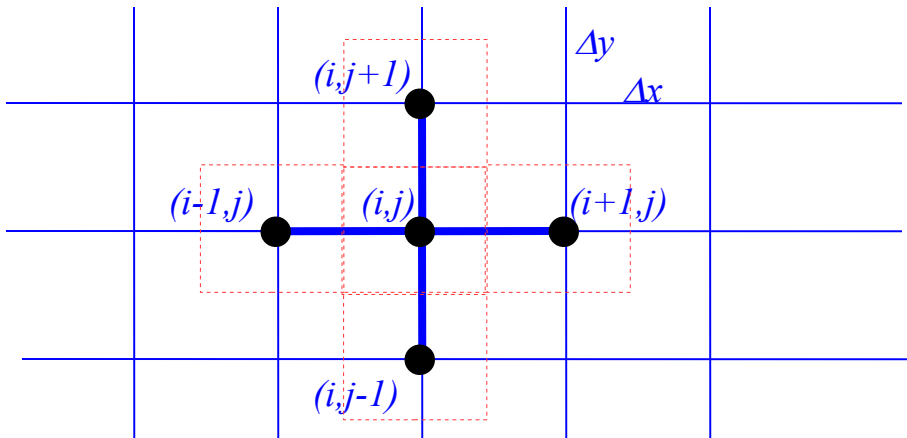
# cells in the node at time  $t$  = # cells in the node at preceding time

+ # cells coming from neighbours

- # cells going to neighbours



The dimensionally coupled system presented in point 2 will be used to model 3D tissue and the computational techniques in point 2 will be used to model 3D tissue and the



Original at





# Reaction-diffusion equation

# cells in the node at time  $t$

# cells in the node at preceding time

+ # cells coming from neighbours

- # cells going to neighbours

+ # generated (born) in the node

- # degraded (dead) in the node

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} = \nabla \cdot (\mathbf{D} \nabla u) + \Gamma - \Delta$$



# Advection-reaction-diffusion equation

# cells in the node at time  $t$

= # cells in the node at preceding time

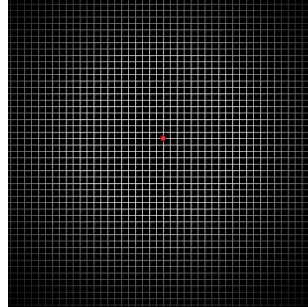
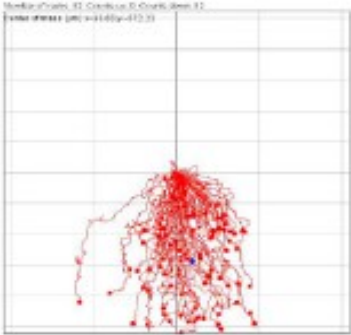
+ # cells coming from neighbours

- # cells going to neighbours

+ # generated (born) in the node

- # degraded (dead) in the node

- # advected with velocity  $\mathbf{v}$



Original at [ocw.mit.edu/ans7870/1/1.061/f04/animation/ch6\\_cont.avi](http://ocw.mit.edu/ans7870/1/1.061/f04/animation/ch6_cont.avi)

because it is advected



$u$  changes in time

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} + \nabla \cdot (u\mathbf{v}) = \nabla \cdot (D\nabla u) + \Gamma - \Delta$$

because of birth/death

because diffuses



# Fundamental solutions

Diffusione in  $\mathbb{R}^n$

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} = D \nabla^2 u$$

$$u(x, t) = \frac{M}{(4\pi Dt)^{d/2}} \exp \left[ -\frac{|\mathbf{x}|^2}{4Dt} \right]$$

Diffusione con crescita

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} = D \nabla^2 u + \gamma u$$

$$u(x, t) = \frac{M}{(4\pi Dt)^{d/2}} \exp \left[ -\frac{|\mathbf{x}|^2}{4Dt} + \gamma t \right]$$

Convezione-diffusione

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} + \mathbf{v} \cdot \nabla u = D \nabla^2 u$$

$$u(x, t) = \frac{M}{(4\pi Dt)^{d/2}} \exp \left[ -\frac{|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{v}t|^2}{4Dt} \right]$$



# Drug efficacy

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} = D \nabla^2 u$$

$$u(x, t) = \frac{M}{(4\pi Dt)^{d/2}} \exp \left[ -\frac{|\mathbf{x}|^2}{4Dt} \right]$$

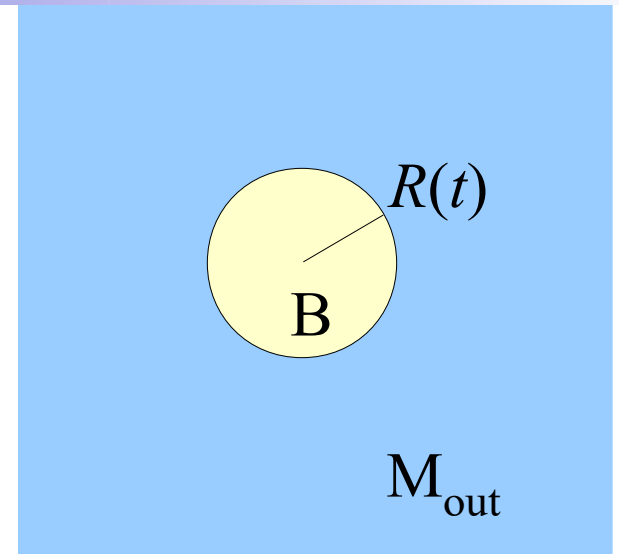
When  $u > \bar{u}$  in  $x_0$ ?



# Population expansion

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} = D \nabla^2 u$$

$$u(x, t) = \frac{M}{(4\pi Dt)^{d/2}} \exp \left[ -\frac{|\mathbf{x}|^2}{4Dt} \right]$$





# Population expansion with growth

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} = D\nabla^2 u + \gamma u$$

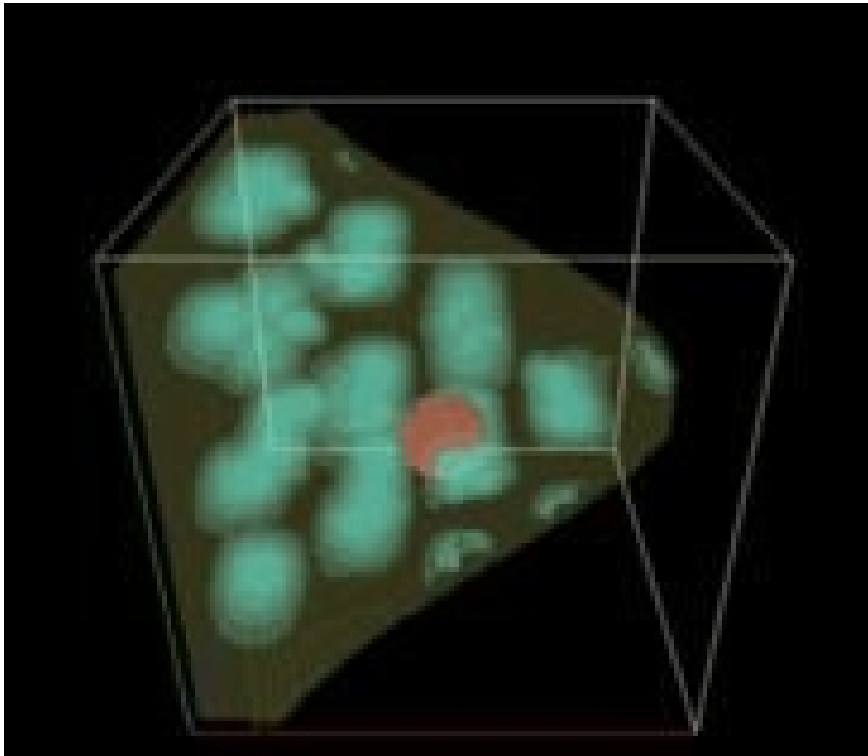
$$u(x, t) = \frac{M}{(4\pi Dt)^{d/2}} \exp \left[ -\frac{|\mathbf{x}|^2}{4Dt} + \gamma t \right]$$

# Diffusion models

rate of change of tumor cell population  
= diffusion (motility) of tumor cells  
+ net proliferation of tumor cells

$$\frac{\partial c}{\partial t} = \nabla \cdot (D \nabla c) + \rho c$$

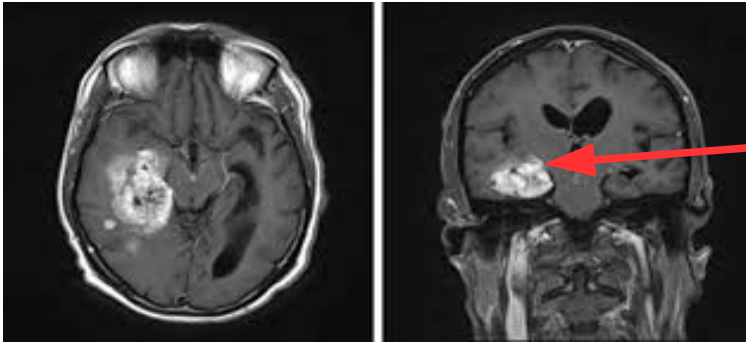
## Breast tumour



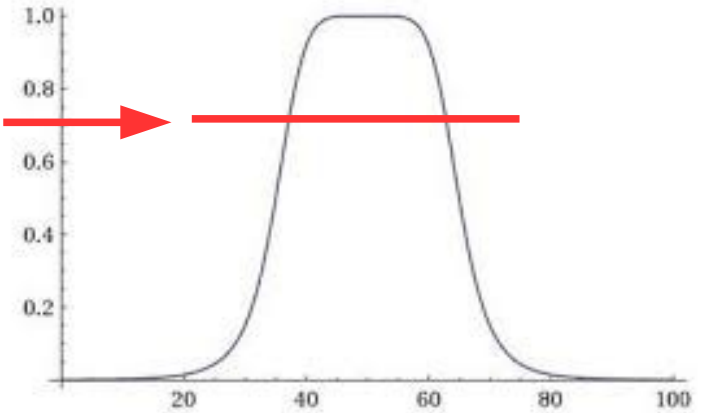
Original at:

[www.maths.dundee.ac.uk/mbg/](http://www.maths.dundee.ac.uk/mbg/)

# Inverse problems

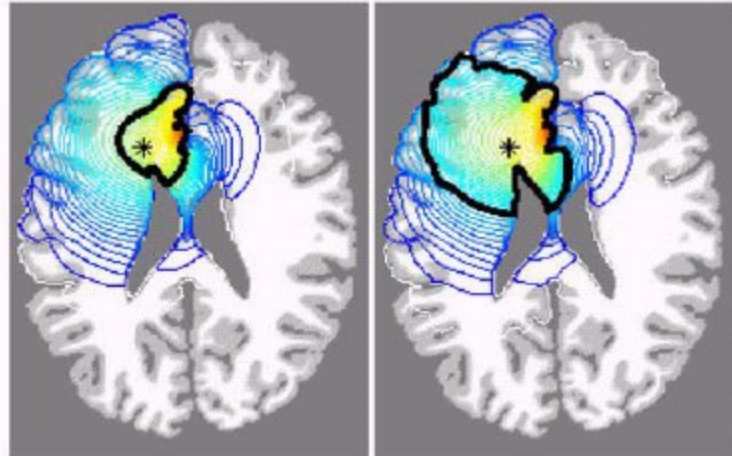
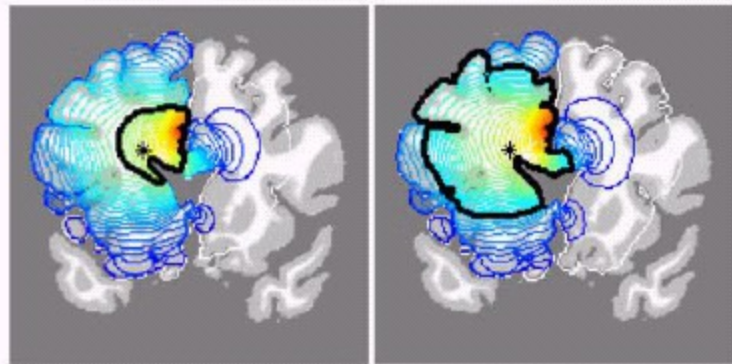
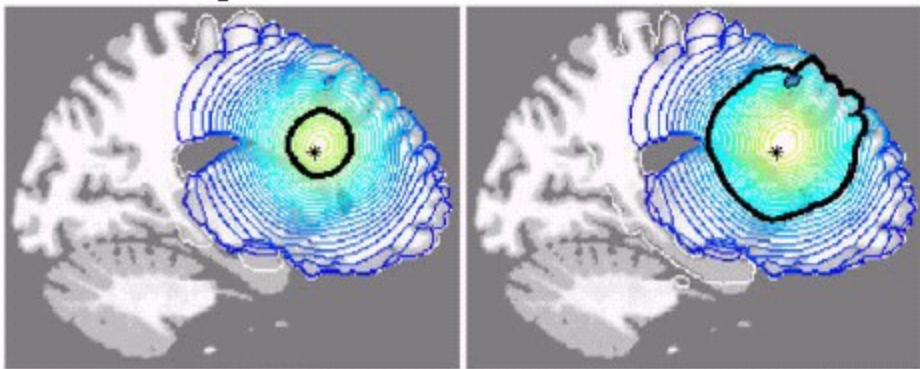


Detection  
threshold



$$\frac{\partial c}{\partial t} = \nabla \cdot (D \nabla c) + \rho c$$



**Diagnosis****Death**

rate of change of tumor cell population  
 = diffusion (motility) of tumor cells  
 + net proliferation of tumor cells

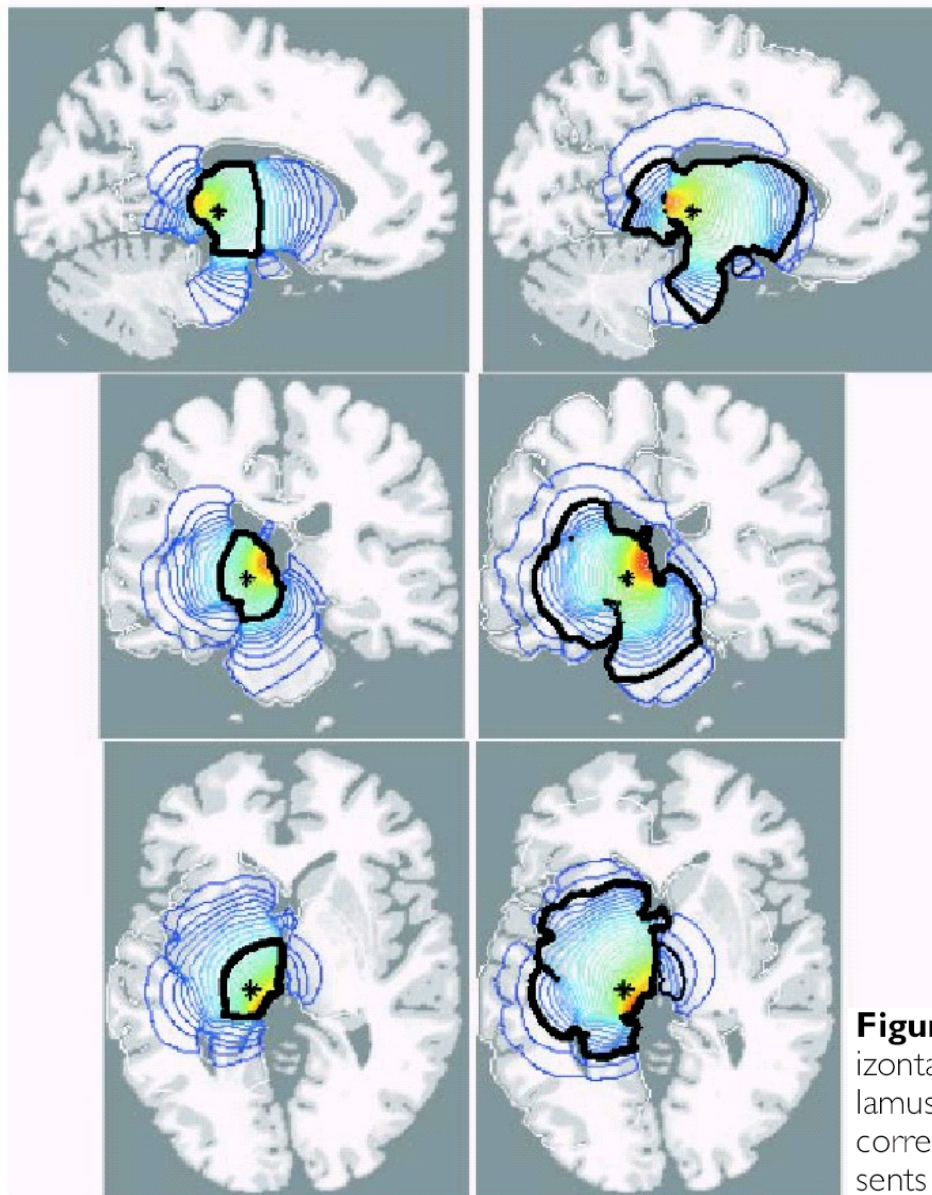
$$\frac{\partial c}{\partial t} = \nabla \cdot (D \nabla c) + \rho c$$

**K. Swanson**

Fig. 2. Sections of a virtual human brain in sagittal, coronal and horizontal planes that intersect at the site of a glioma originating in the superior frontal region denoted by an asterisk (\*). The left column of brain sections corresponds to the tumor at diagnosis (3 cm in average diameter) whereas the right column represents the same tumor at death (6 cm in average diameter). Red denotes a high density of tumor cells while blue denotes a low density. A thick black contour defines the edge of the tumor detectable by enhanced MRI. Cell migration was allowed to occur in a truly three-dimensional solid representation of the brain. The elapsed time between diagnosis and death for this virtual glioma is approximately 158 days, about one-fourth of the total history of the tumor. Reprinted from Swanson et al. [22], with the kind permission of Nature Publishing Group.

Diagnosis

Death



rate of change of tumor cell population  
 = diffusion (motility) of tumor cells  
 + net proliferation of tumor cells

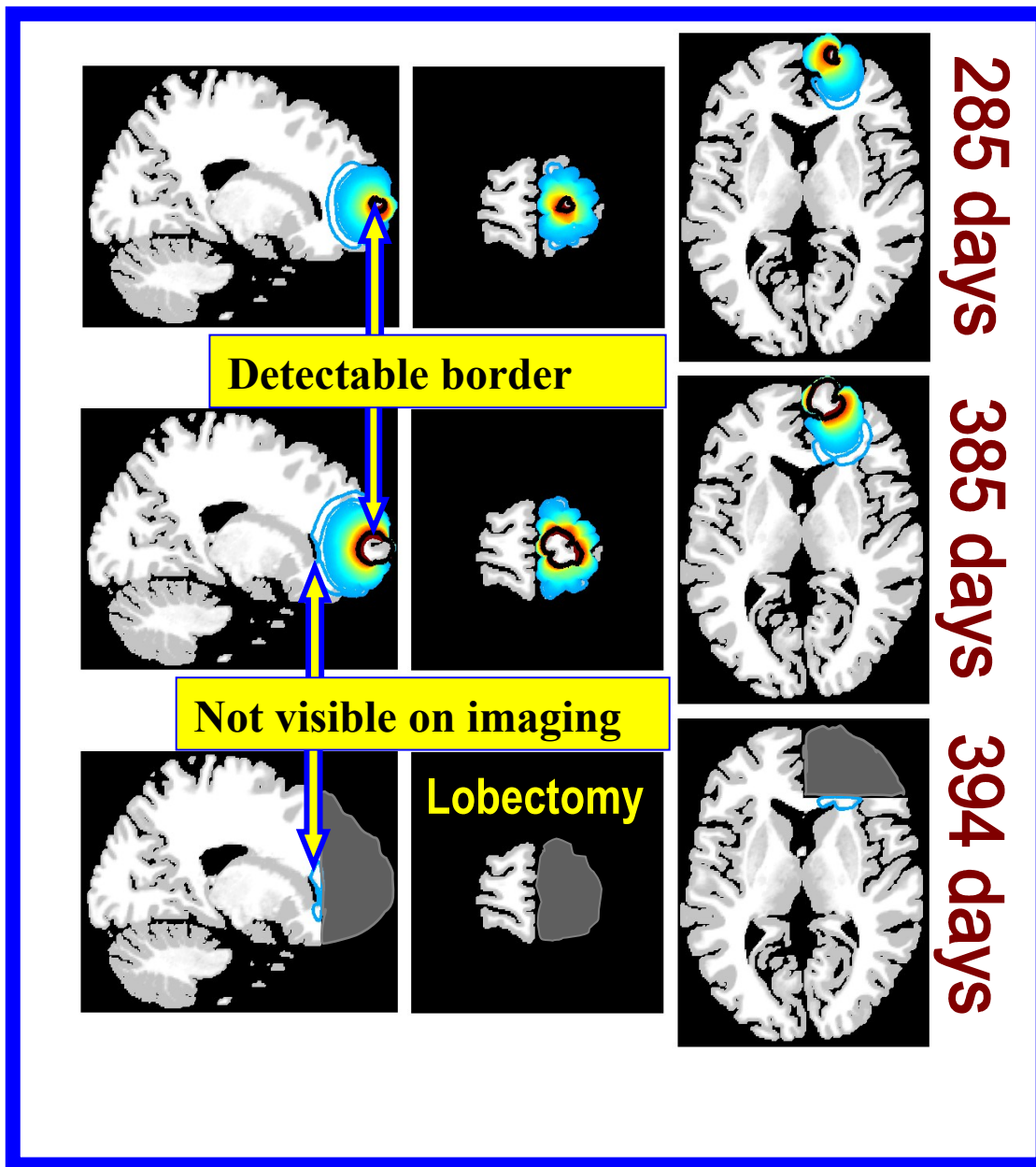
$$\frac{\partial c}{\partial t} = \nabla \cdot (D \nabla c) + \rho c$$

**K. Swanson**



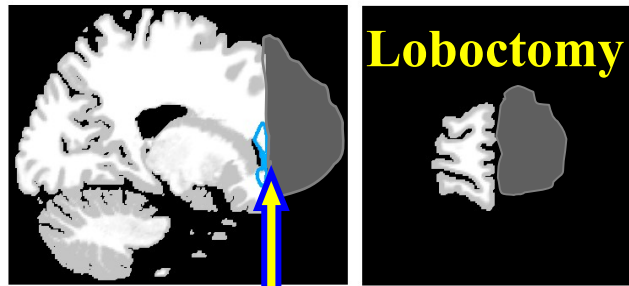
**Figure 2** Sections of the virtual human brain in sagittal, coronal and horizontal planes that intersect at the site of the glioma originating in the thalamus denoted by an asterisk (\*). The left column of brain sections corresponds to the tumour at diagnosis whereas the right column represents the same tumour at death. Red denotes a high density of tumour cells while blue denotes a low density. A thick black contour defines the edge of the tumour detectable by enhanced CT. Cell migration was allowed to occur in a truly three-dimensional solid representation of the brain. The elapsed time between diagnosis and death for this virtual gliomas is approximately 256 days.





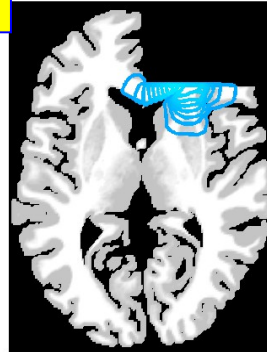
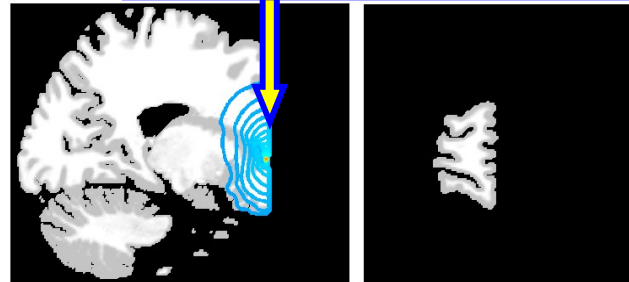
Sagittal, coronal and axial virtual MRIs from a continuous motion picture of the recurrence of a “favorable” glioblastoma (unusually small, 1 cm in diameter, and unusually far forward in frontal polar cortex) following extensive resection of most of the frontal lobe. Thick black contours represent the edge of the gadolinium-enhanced T1-weighted MRI (T1Gd) signal. Red: high glioma cell density; Blue: low density.

Sagittal, coronal and axial virtual MRIs from a continuous motion picture of the recurrence of a “favorable” glioblastoma (unusually small, 1 cm in diameter, and unusually far forward in frontal polar cortex) following extensive resection of most of the frontal lobe. Thick black contours represent the edge of the gadolinium-enhanced T1-weighted MRI (T1Gd) signal. Red: high glioma cell density; Blue: low density.

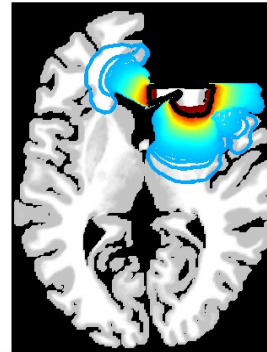
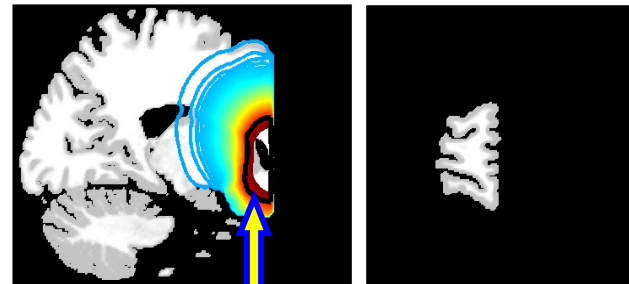


**394 days**

**Not visible on imaging**



**675 days**



**965 days**

**Detectable border**

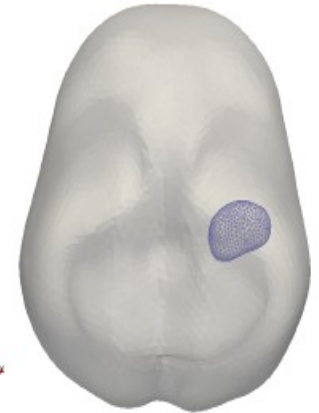
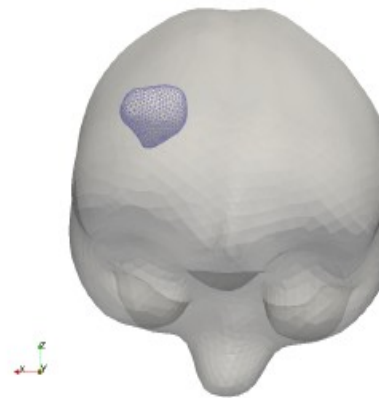
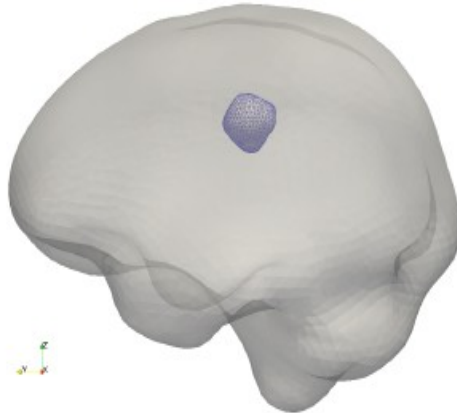


# Control & optimization of chemotherapy

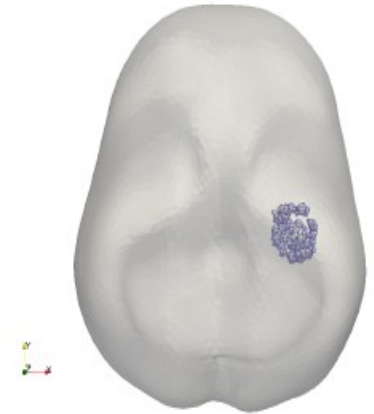
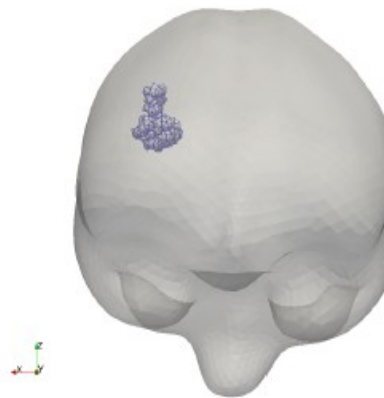
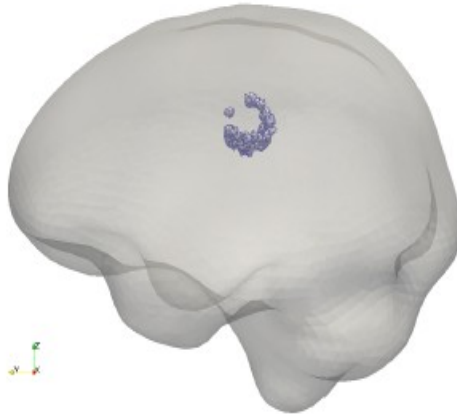


Giverso, Agosti, Ciarletta, Ambrosi, *ZAMM* (2018)

Tumour  
mesh

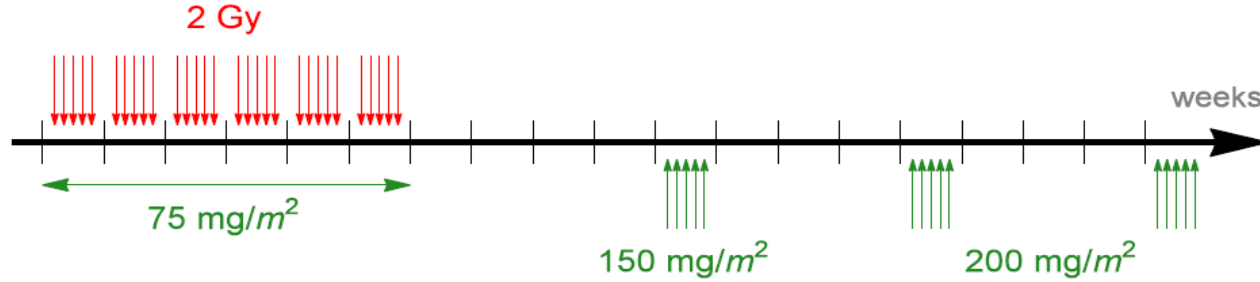


Resected  
tumour

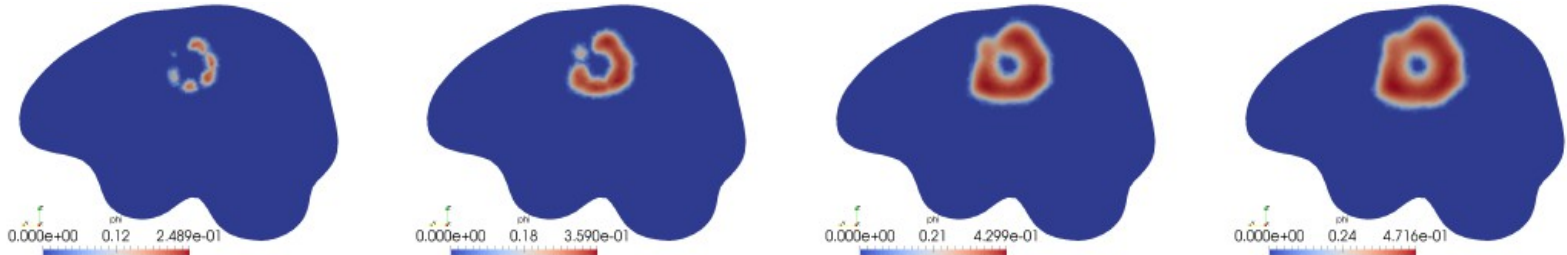


# Control & optimization of chemotherapy

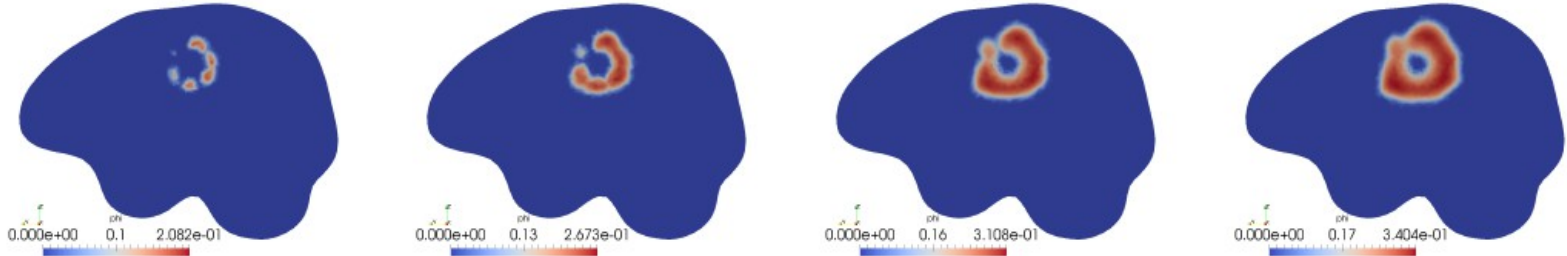
Standard Stupp protocol:



Standard  
therapy



Increased  
CHT dose



Increased RT  
sensitivity

