

Multiscale systems pharmacology for optimizing multidrug anticancer therapies

Annabelle Ballesta

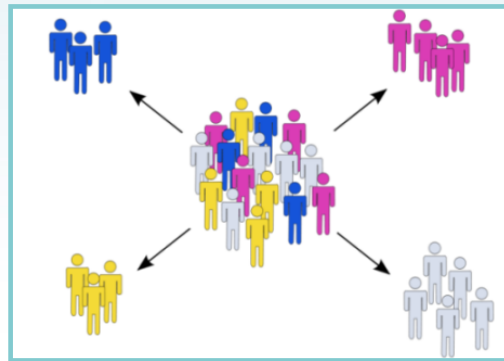
Assistant Professor

Warwick Systems Biology Centre

Marseille, 10 December 2015

Optimizing Anticancer Therapies

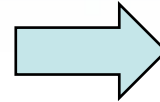
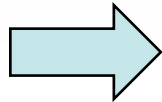
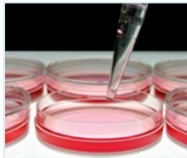
- Numerous anticancer drugs, possible combinations and scheduling.
- Large inter-patients differences in cancer diseases: need for treatment personalization



New **systems pharmacology** approaches

ODE-based physiological modeling

- | Physiological meanings of variables and parameters (drug concentrations, intracellular protein amounts, reaction rates)
- | Advantages:
 - i) low computational cost,
 - ii) allow direct model/data comparison,
 - iii) allow **multi-scale model design and calibration:**



Outline

- I) An *in vitro* systems pharmacology proof of concept
- II) Towards personalization of temozolomide-based combination therapies:
 - i. TMZ pharmacokinetics (PK)
 - ii. TMZ pharmacodynamics (PD)

I) A systems pharmacology proof of concept

Ballesta et al. PLoS Comp Biol 2013

- 2 cell populations (NIH-3T3 mouse fibroblasts):
 - Parental = «Healthy»
 - SRC-transformed = «Cancer» [**SRC** : oncogene mutated in various cancers]
- SRC-transformed cells **resistant** to single agent therapies (staurosporine, etoposide, ...) but not parental cells...
- Resistance due to alteration of apoptosis pathways

A systems pharmacology proof of concept

Ballesta et al. PLoS Comp Biol 2013

Optimal drug combinations to eradicate resistant
«cancer» cells w/o harming «healthy» cells?

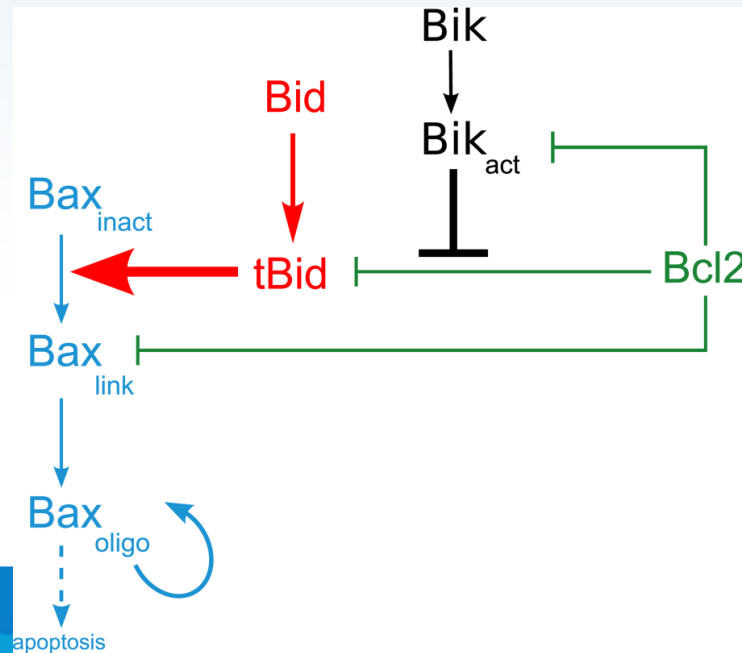


A systems pharmacology proof of concept

Ballesta et al. PLoS Comp Biol 2013

Optimal drug combinations to eradicate resistant
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Mathematical model of mitochondrial pathway of
apoptosis



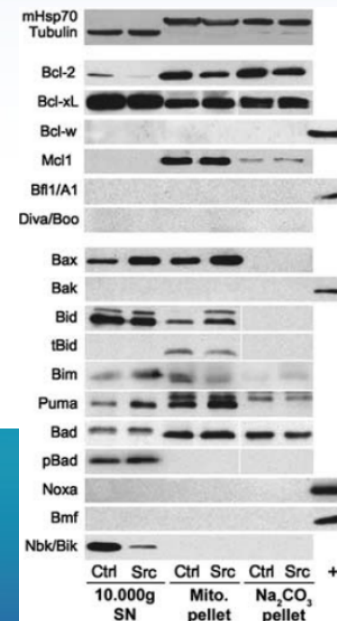
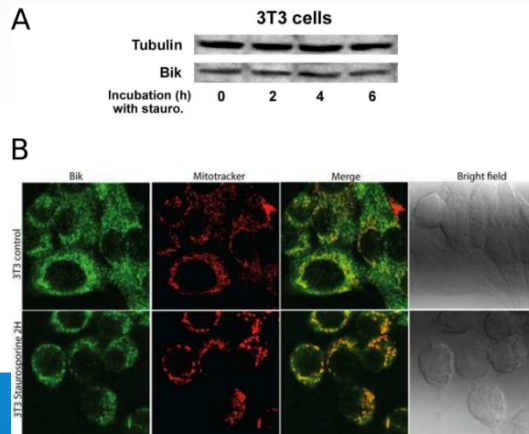
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Mathematical model of mitochondrial pathway of
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Specific experiments (Protein degradation kinetics
and relative levels, drug cytotoxicity)



A systems pharmacology proof of concept

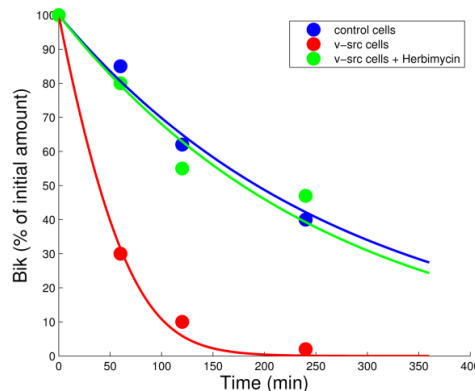
Ballesta et al. PLoS Comp Biol 2013

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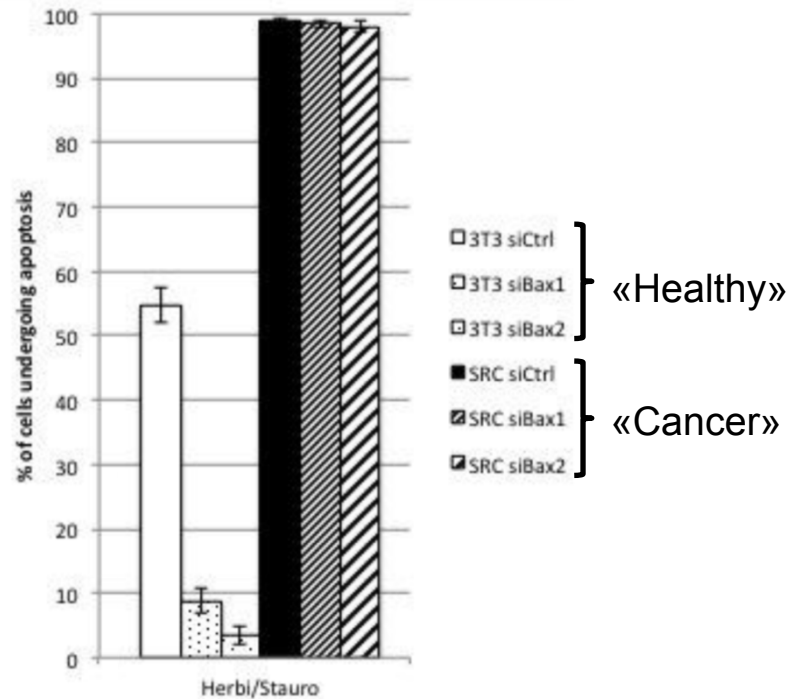
Parameter Estimation



A systems pharmacology proof of concept

Ballesta et al. PLoS Comp Biol 2013

Optimal drug combinations to eradicate resistant «cancer» cells w/o harming «healthy» cells?



EXPERIMENTAL VALIDATION of non-intuitive optimal therapies circumventing resistance w/o toxicities

Outline

I) An *in vitro* systems pharmacology proof of concept

II) Towards personalizing temozolomide-based combination therapies:

- i. TMZ pharmacokinetics (PK)
- ii. TMZ pharmacodynamics (PD)

II) Personalizing Temozolomide Combination Therapies

- Anticancer drug **Temozolomide (TMZ)** approved since 1999 for treatment of glioblastoma (GBM).
- Dismal survival of 12-14 months of GBM patients, despite chemotherapy

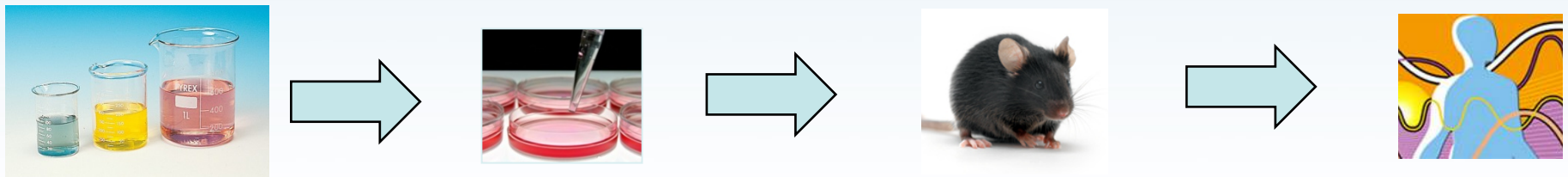
Aim: improve GBM management through personalized TMZ-based combination therapies.

II) Personalizing Temozolomide Combination Therapies

How: Multi-scale systems pharmacology approach

i. TMZ pharmacokinetics:

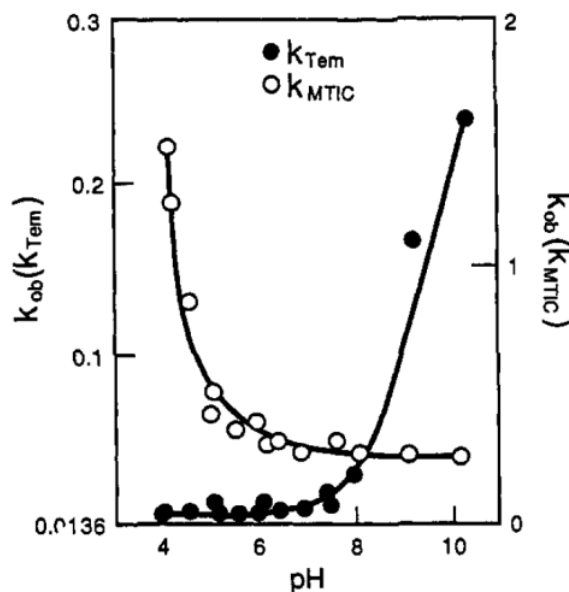
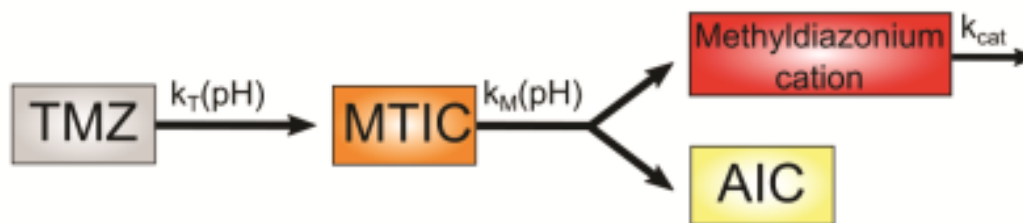
Ballesta et al., CPT: pharmacometrics & systems pharmacology, 2014



ii. TMZ pharmacodynamics



1. TMZ PK in buffer solutions



Denny et al., Biochemistry, 1994

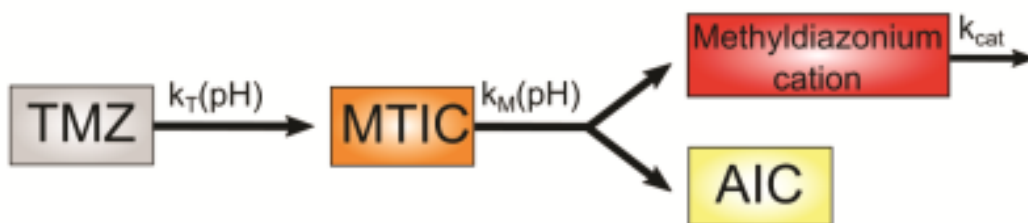
Reactions are pH-dependent:

- TMZ metabolism faster at high pH
- MTIC degradation faster at low pH



1.TMZ PK in buffer solutions

- Equations based on the law of mass action:



$$\frac{dT}{dt} = -k_T T$$

$$\frac{dM}{dt} = k_T T - k_M M$$

$$\frac{dA}{dt} = k_M M$$

pH-dependent parameters:

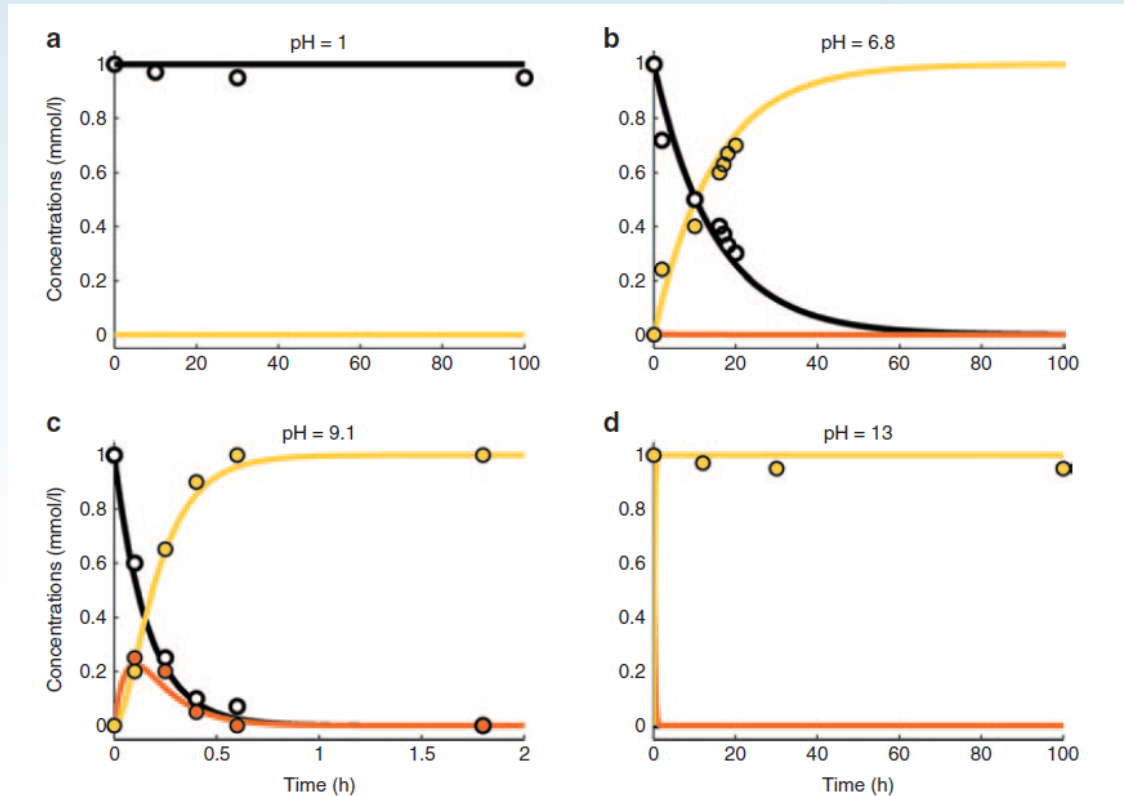
$$k_T(pH) = k_{T0} e^{\lambda_T pH}$$

$$k_M(pH) = k_{M0} e^{-\lambda_M pH}$$



1.TMZ PK in buffer solutions

- Parameter estimation from data in Andrasi et al., 2010:

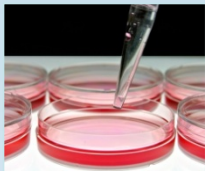


Optimal parameter values:

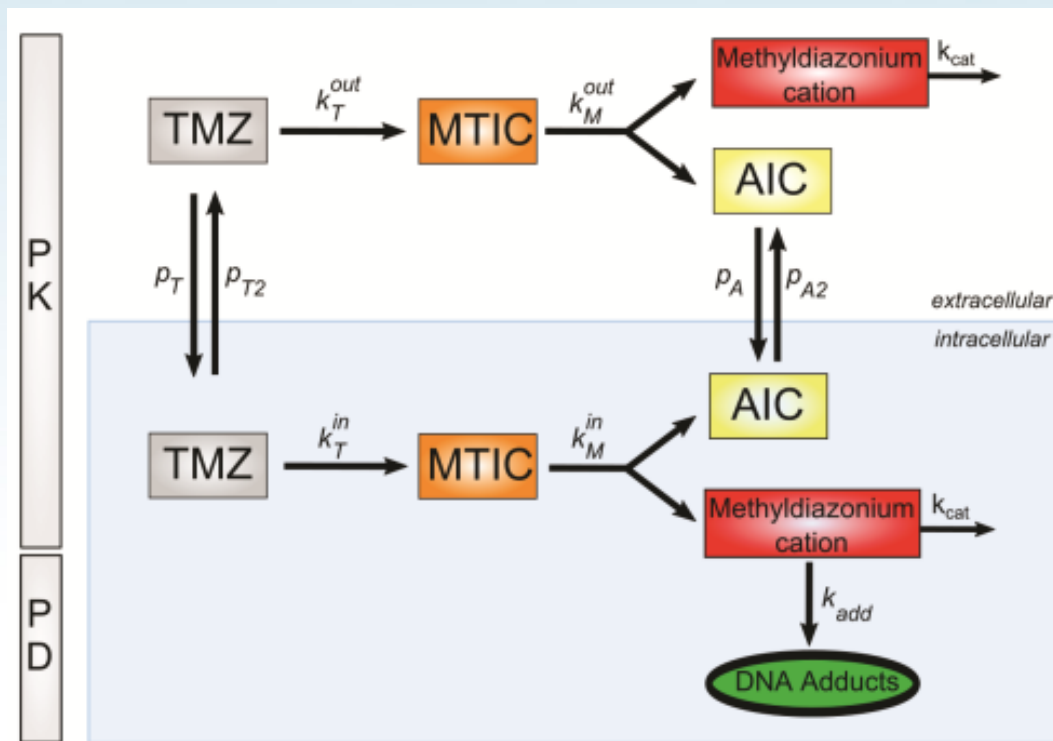
$$\begin{cases} k_{T0} = 1.1 \cdot 10^{-7} \text{ h}^{-1} \\ \lambda_T = 1.96 \\ k_{M0} = 292 \text{ h}^{-1} \\ \lambda_M = 0.33 \end{cases}$$

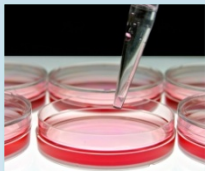


To be used in the
cell culture study

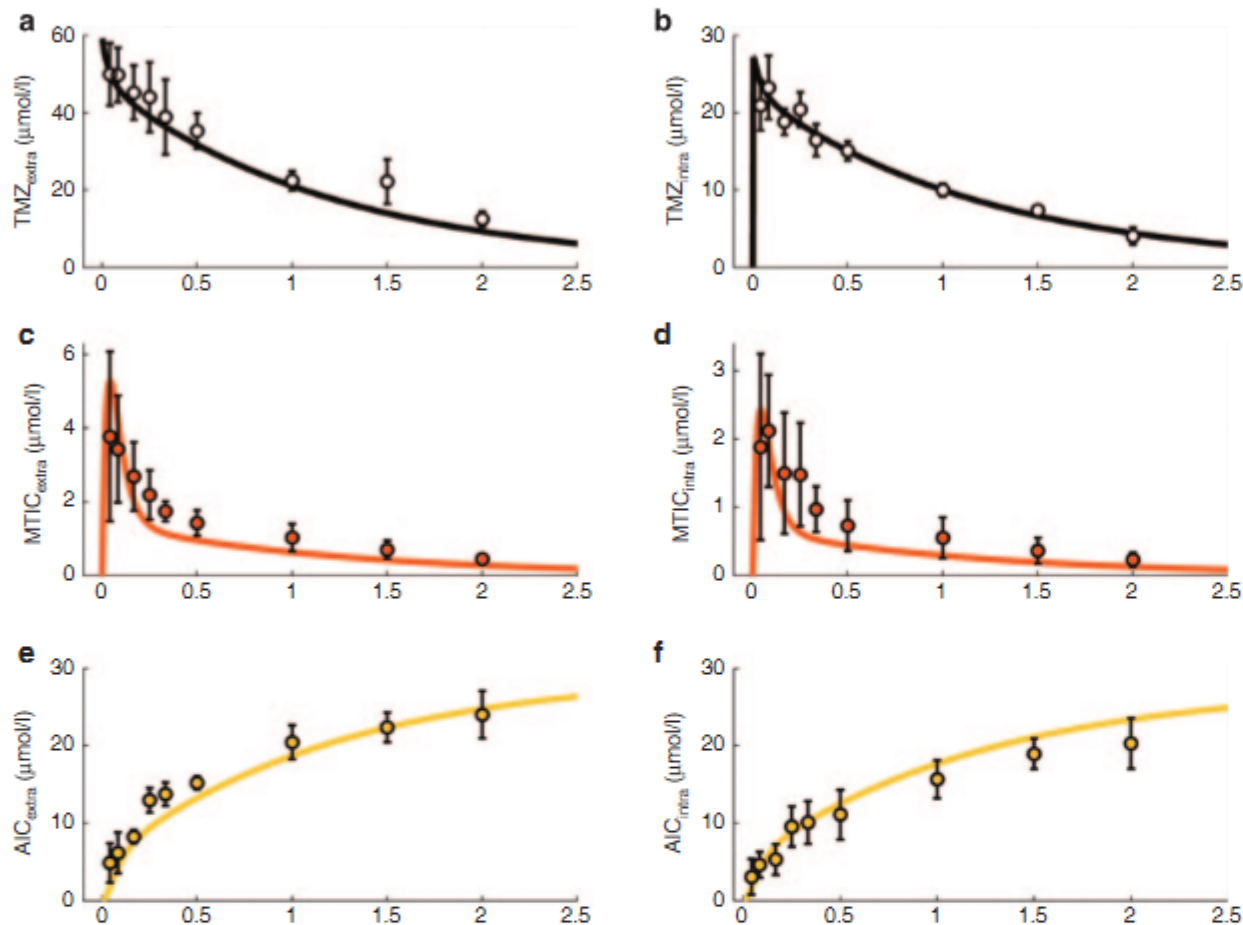


2. TMZ PK in U87 glioma cultured cells

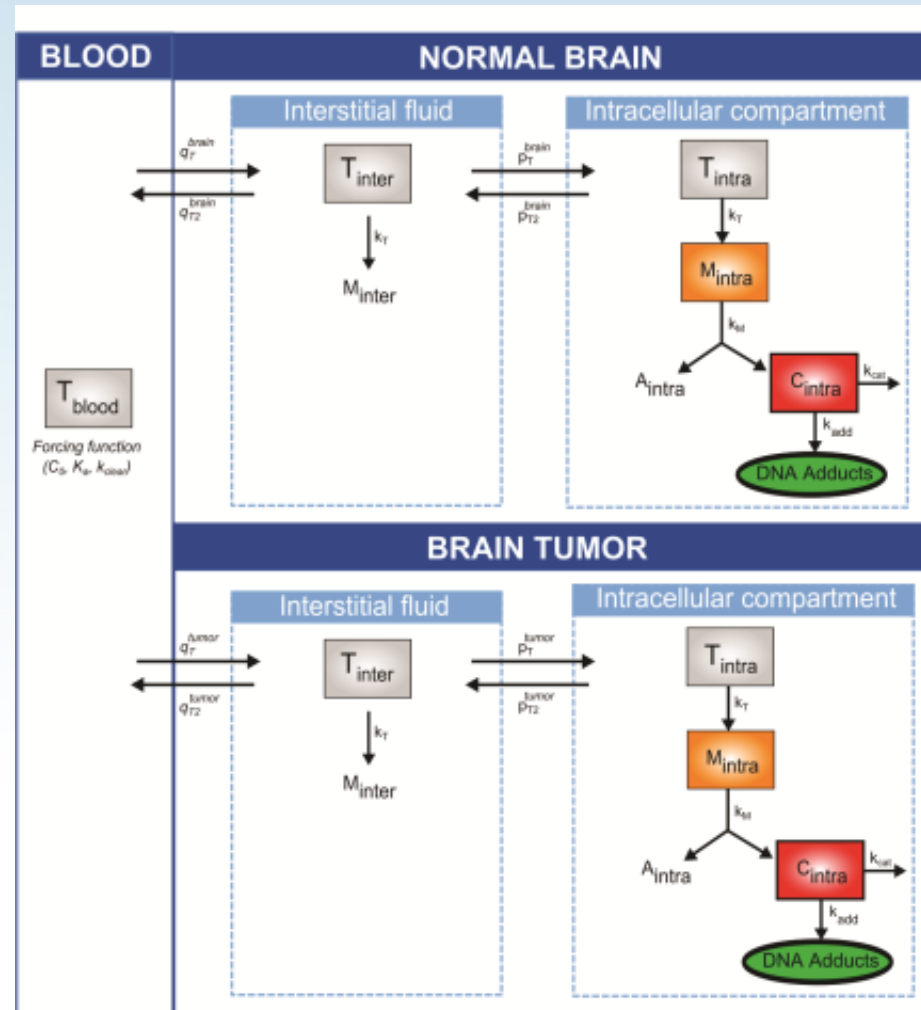




2.TMZ PK in U87 cells: Data fit

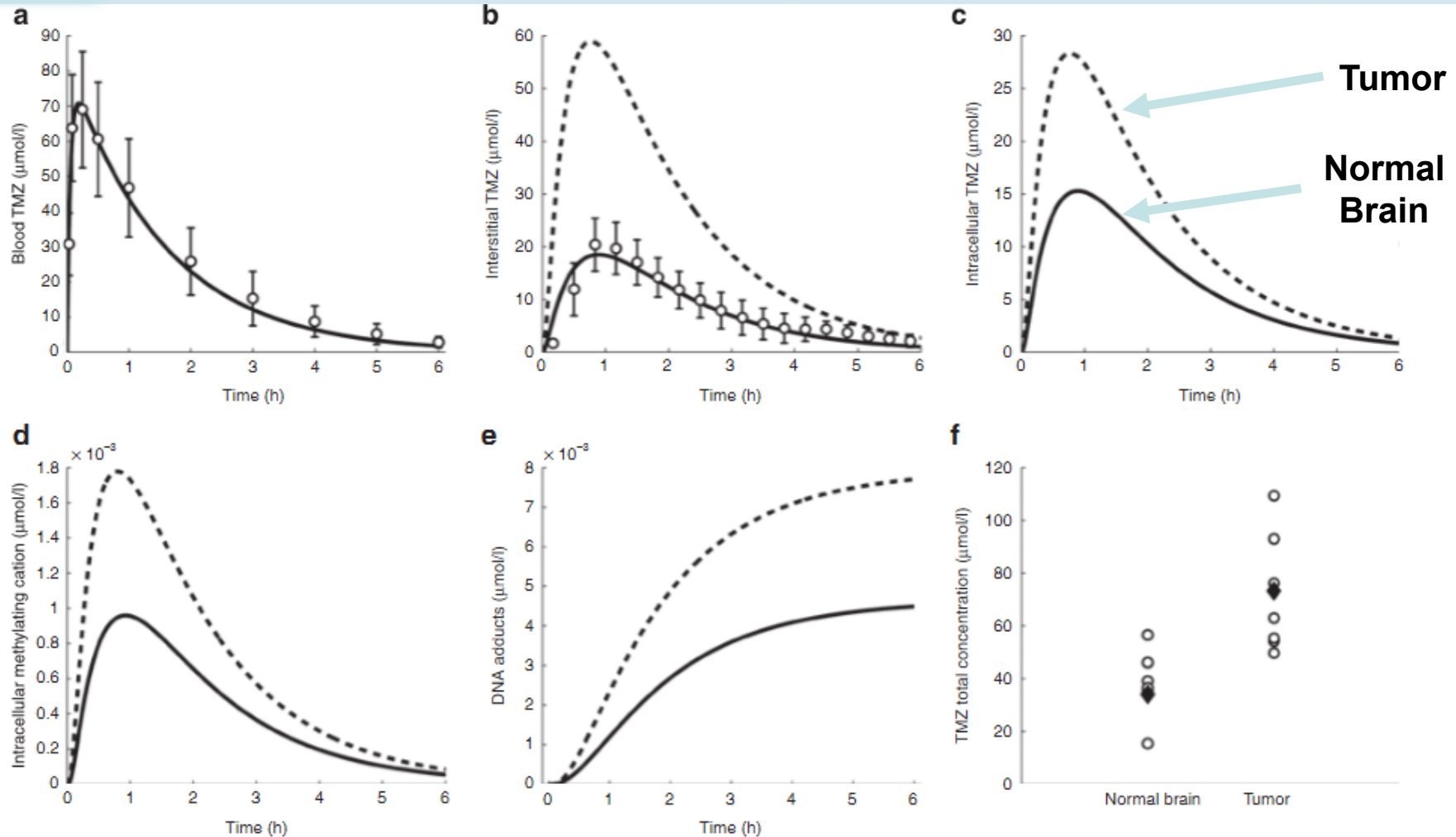


3. TMZ brain disposition in mice



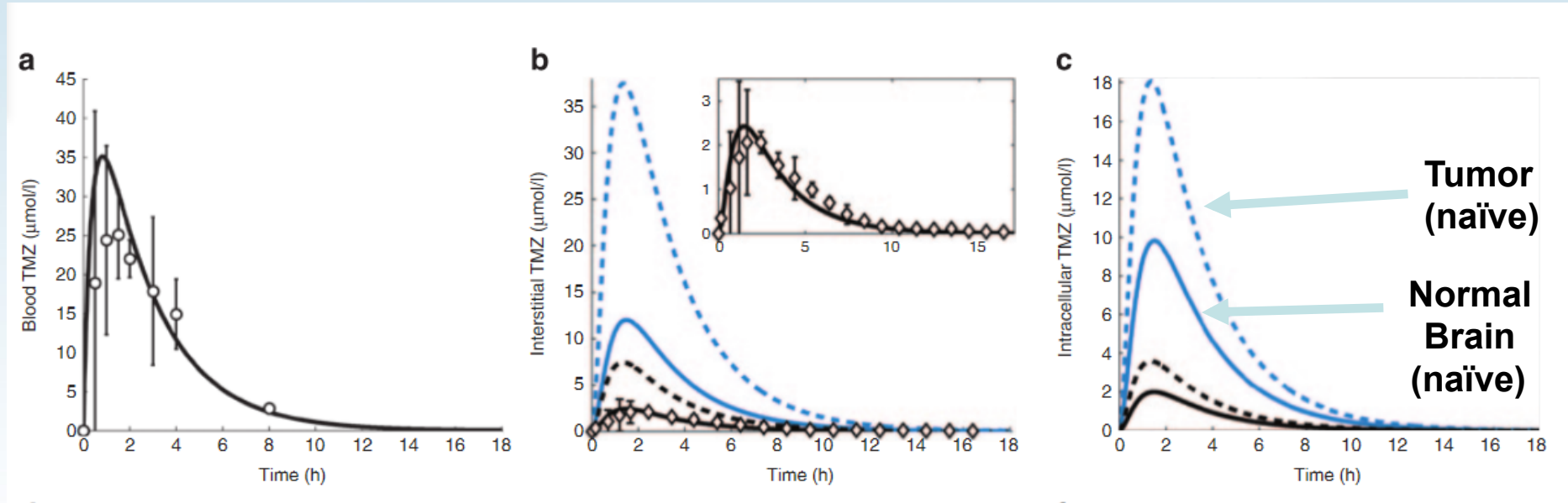


3. TMZ brain disposition in mice



Orthotopic nude mouse model of U87 human glioma cells, blood and normal brain microdialysis

4. TMZ brain disposition in patients

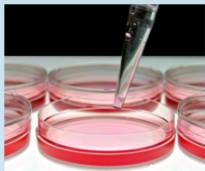


Dots= clinical data from literature, Black=clinical data fit, Blue=Naïve scaling from mice.

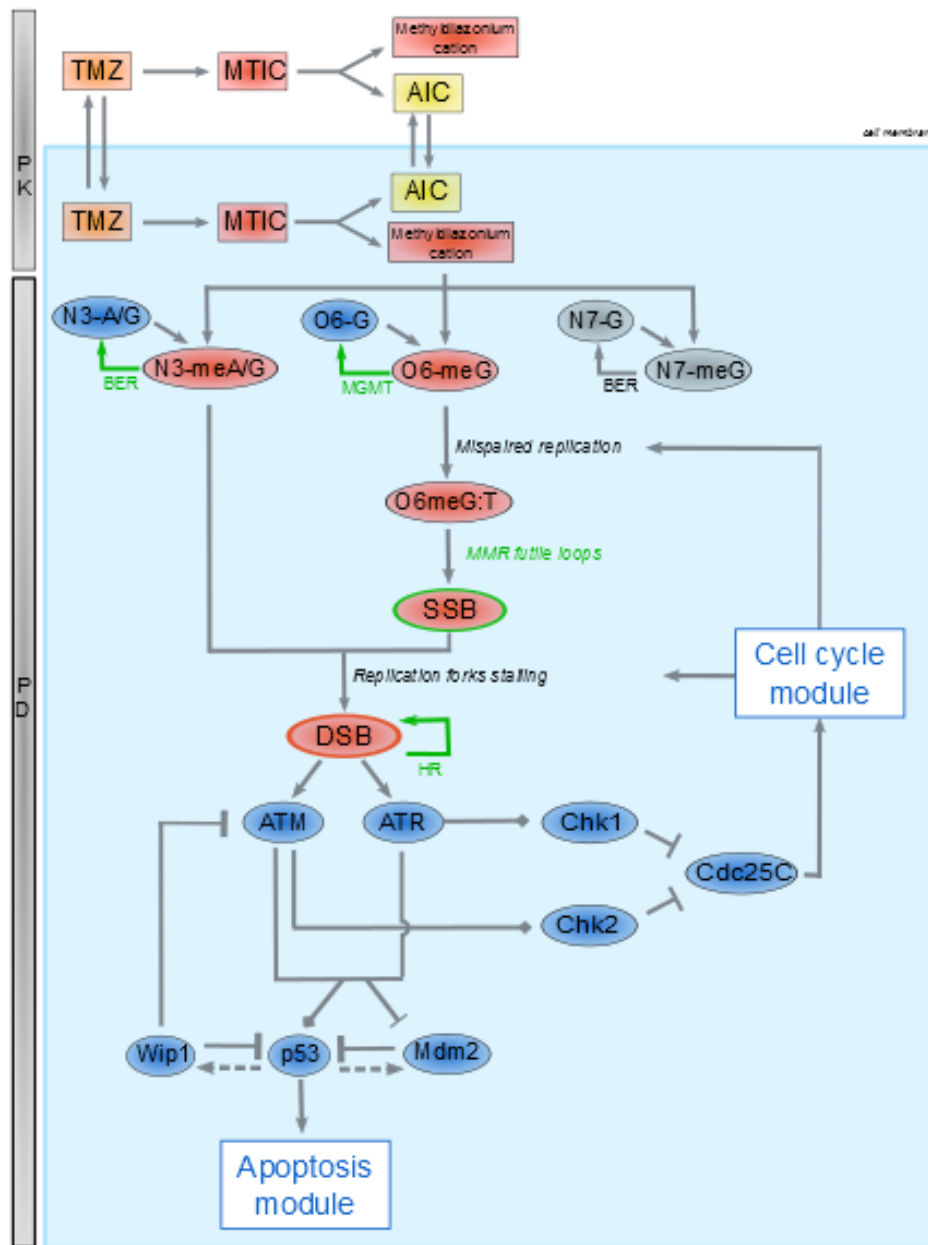
- Naïve scaling from mouse overestimate human brain concentrations by approx. 5 fold
- Human mechanistic model of TMZ PK

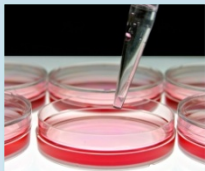
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 - ii. **TMZ pharmacodynamics (PD)**

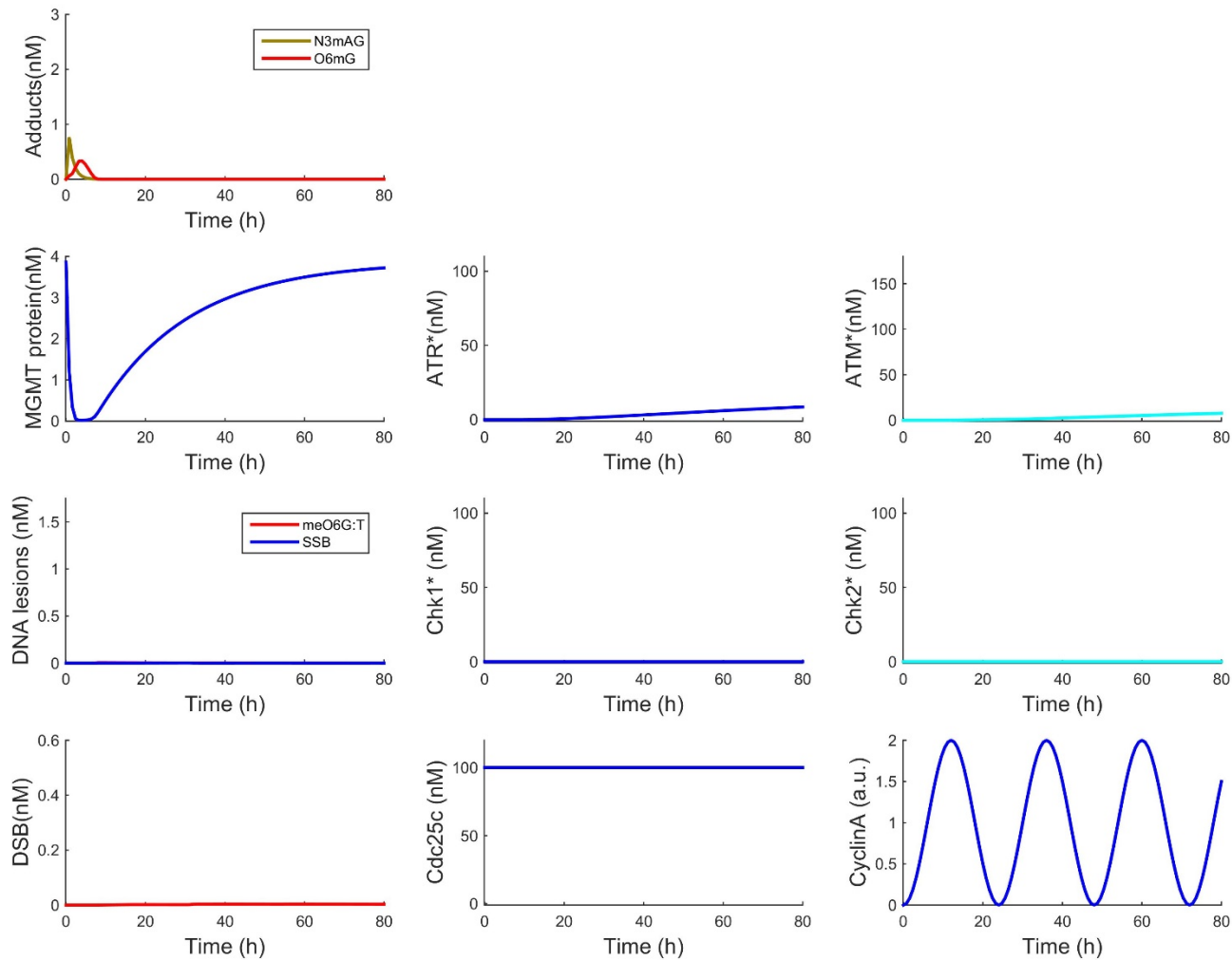


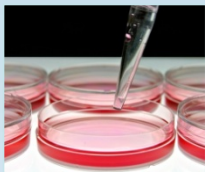
ii. TMZ PK-PD



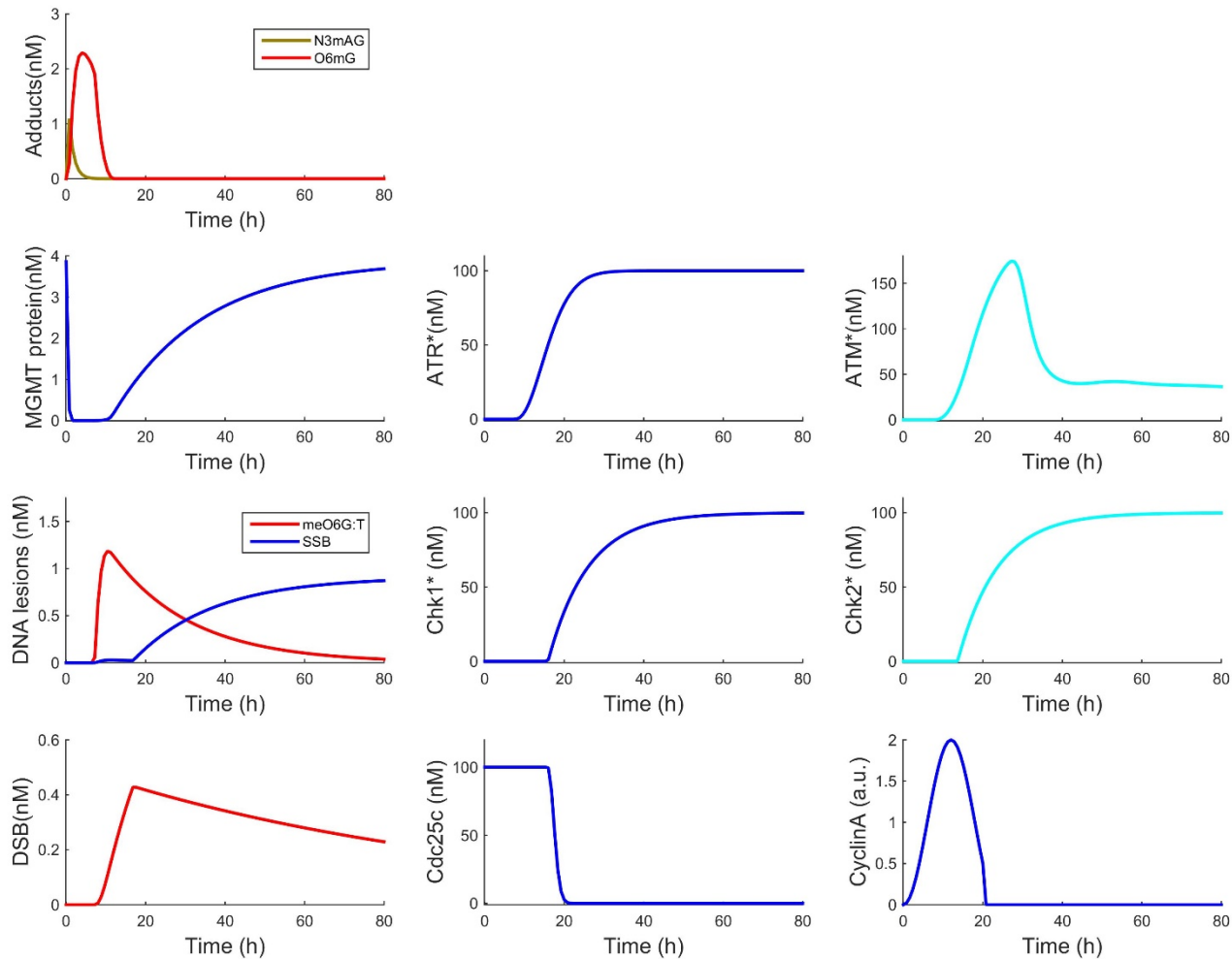


Low TMZ doses: DNA damage is repaired



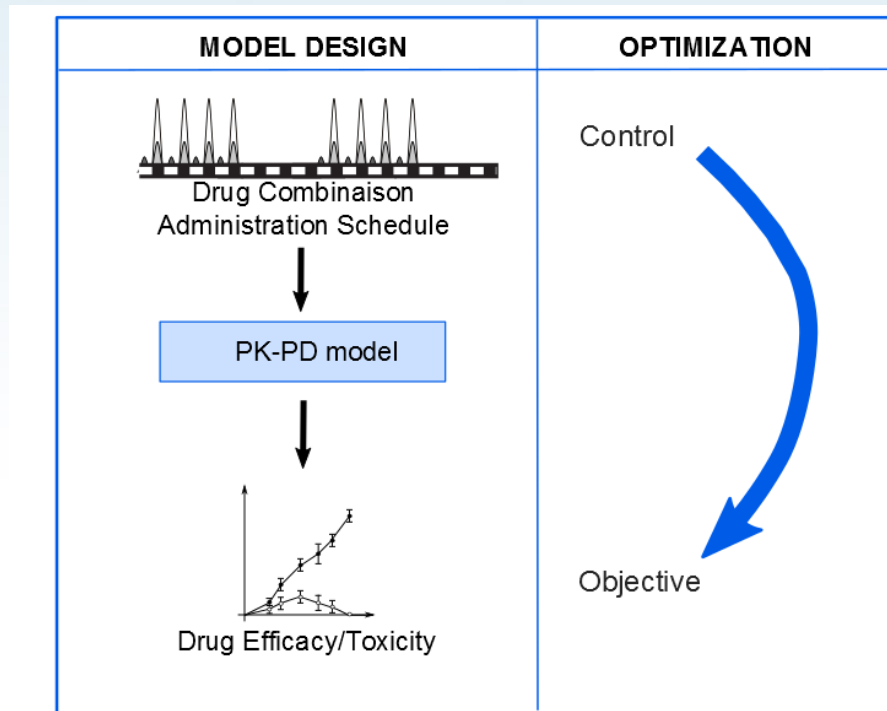


High TMZ doses: cell cycle arrest



Towards Personalized Combination Therapies

- **Calibrate protein levels to patient-derived cell lines:** (Institut du cerveau et de la moelle épinière, Paris)
- **Patient-specific combination therapies:** maximal anticancer efficacy under restricted doses

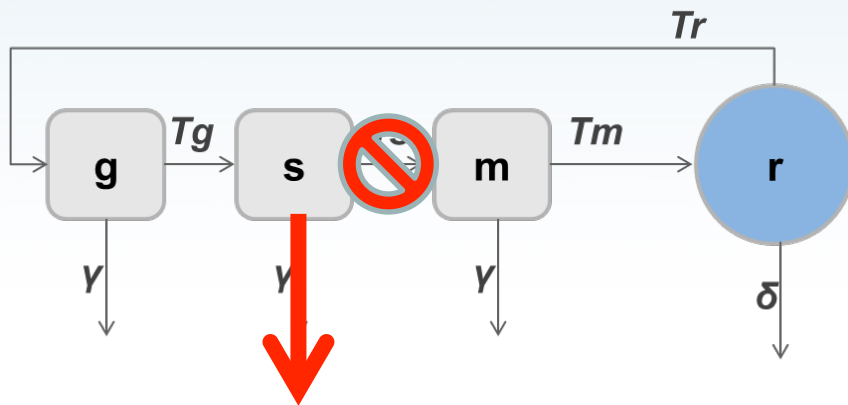


Conclusion

- Validated physiologically-based systems pharmacology approach to optimize combination anticancer therapies
- TMZ PK quantitatively characterized in cultured cells, preclinical and clinical studies; Ongoing work on TMZ PD
- Towards optimization procedures for treatment personalization
- **Future:** cancer cell population and tumor microenvironment

Perspectives

- In collaboration with Thomas Lepoutre (Inria, Lyon)
- Cancer cell population dynamics: PDE model structured in time and age of the cell in its current phase of the cell cycle.



$$\frac{\partial g}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial g}{\partial a} = -(d + T_g(a))g$$

$$g(t, a = 0) = \int_0^{+\infty} T_r(a)r(t, a) da$$

Perspectives

- In collaboration with Angélique Stéphanou (TIMC-IMAG, Grenoble)
- Hybrid tumor model: agent-based model and space-structured PDEs

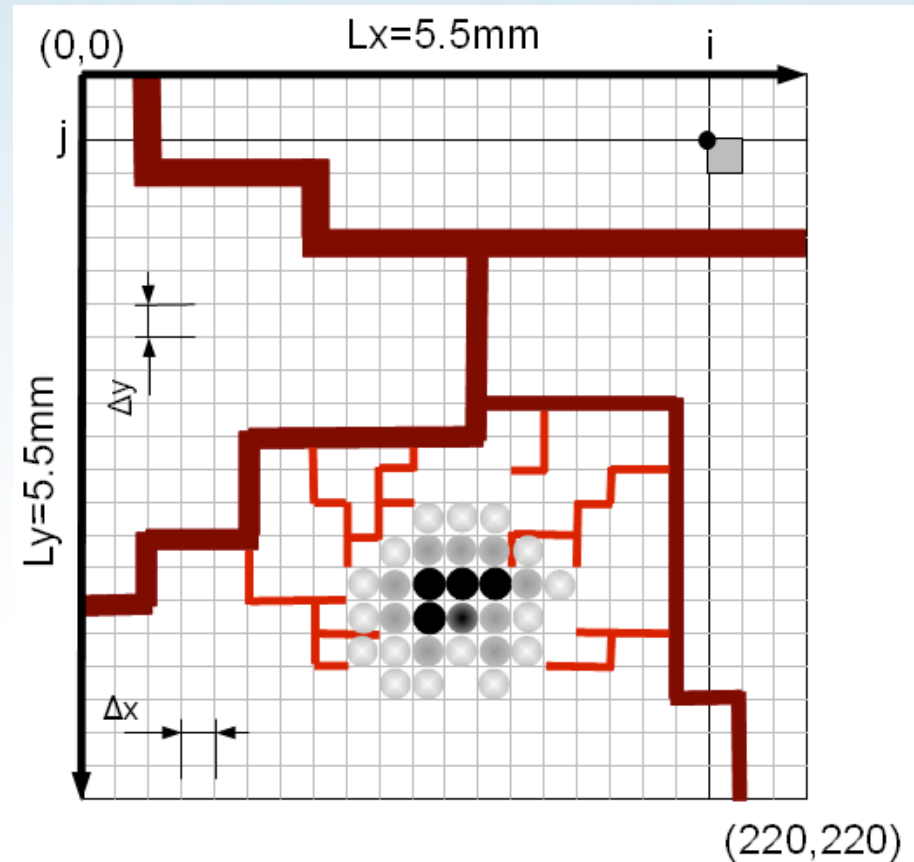
Tumour growth

Metabolism, **drug response**,
cell cycle and death



Angiogenesis, vascular adaptation

Vessels permeability,
diffusion of oxygen and
therapeutic molecules



Collaborators

Mount Sinai School of Medicine, NYC

- Prof James Gallo
- Dr Hua Lv
- Dr Xiaoyan Zhang
- Dr Stéphanie Zhou

Institut du Cerveau et de la Moelle Epinière, Hopital La Pitié Salpêtrière, Paris

- Dr Ahmed Idbaih
- Dr Maité Verreault
- Dr Lauriane Goldwirt