

Models from mixture theory for biofilm growth

Magali Ribot

Laboratoire IDP, Université d'Orléans, Université de Tours, CNRS

Joint work with :

F. Clarelli, C. Di Russo, R. Natalini

O. Bernard, B. Polizzi, F. Lopes, A. Fanesi

T.Goudon, S.Labarthe, B.Laroche, T. Phan, B. Polizzi

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Outline

Short introduction to biofilms

Various models for biofilms

Application 1 : microalgae biofilms

Application 2 : gut microbiota

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Biofilm - examples



← Dental plaque

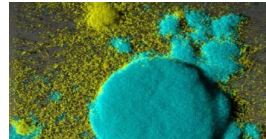


← Industry



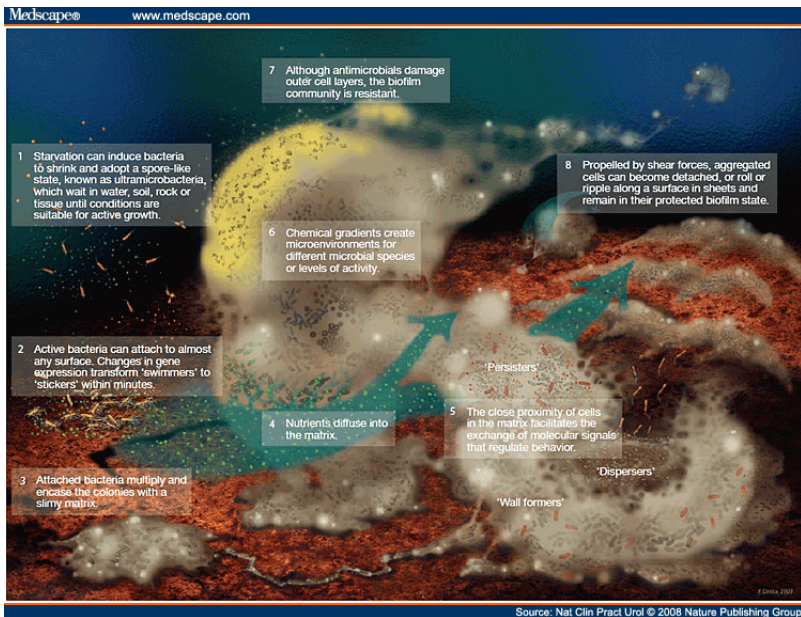
Monuments →

Pseudomonas aer. →

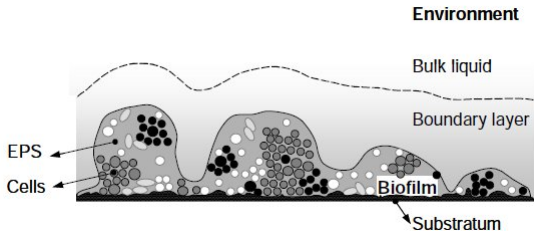


Biofilms are now considered as the preferred form of microbial life
[Costerton, 78].

A "simplified" description of biofilms



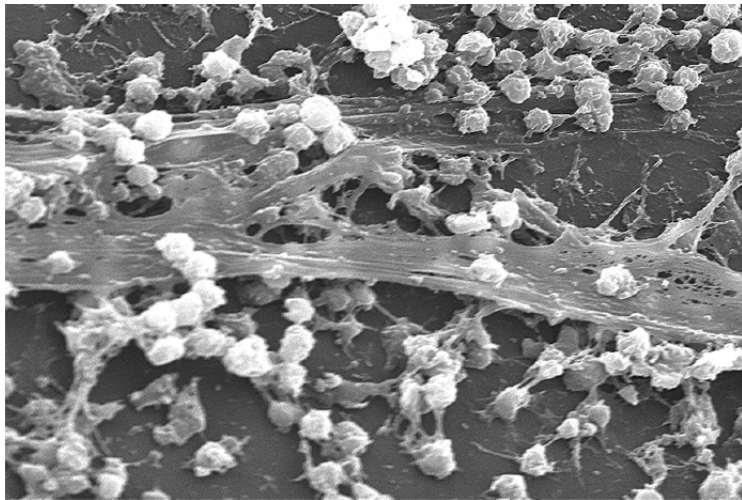
Main characteristics of a biofilm



A biofilm is a complex mixture of microorganisms in interaction

- * anchored to a substratum **surface**,
- * embedded in a Extracellular matrix of Polymeric Substances (**EPS**),
- * in contact with **water** or moisture,
- * influenced by **nutrients**.

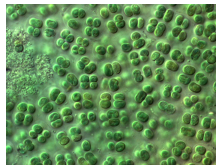
Main characteristics of a biofilm



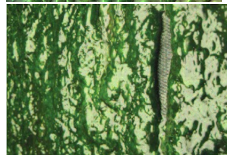
Staphylococcus aureus on a catheter surface

Biofilms studied in this talk

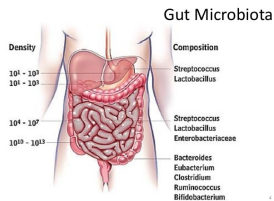
- * *Gloeocapsa Chroococcales* cyanobacteria on fountain walls



- * Microalgae producing lipids

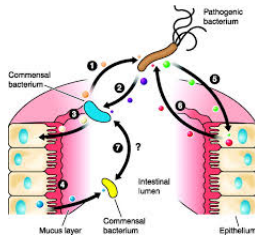


- * Gut microbiota



Common features to the considered systems

- * Dependency in time and space
- * Huge number of organisms and interactions between them
- * Coupling between the system and its environment



⇒ Description at the macroscopic level

⇒ Partial Differential Equations

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Various models for biofilms

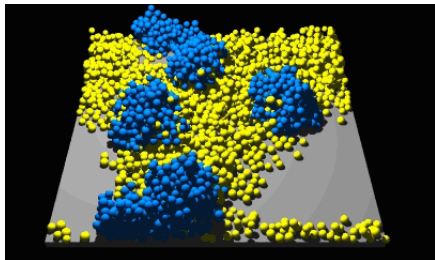
Application 1 : microalgae biofilms

Application 2 : gut microbiota

Agent-based models

[Delft team : Picioreanu, Noguera et al., Water Science and Technology, 2006]

- * Cell displacement by a **random movement**
- * Rules for bacteria contact or division
- * Growth according to the nutrient availability



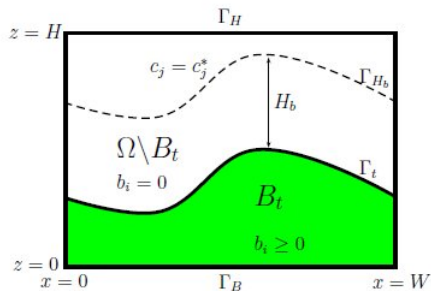
Growth of a biofilm of motile (yellow) and non-motile (blue) *Pseudomonas* cells

Problems :

- * Costly computations if realistic (population size)
- * High sensibility to initial data

A multidimensional multispecies continuum model for heterogeneous biofilm development

Erik Alpkvist ^{a,*}, Isaac Klapper ^{b,c}



2 regions : **biomass** B_t and **liquid** $\Omega \setminus B_t$.

Biomass components θ_i :

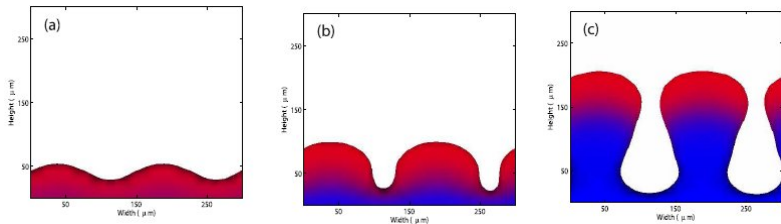
$$\partial_t \theta_i + \operatorname{div}(\theta_i \mathbf{v}) = g_i,$$

$$\mathbf{v} = -\lambda \nabla p$$

Level set formula for the boundary $\Gamma_t = \{\phi(x, t) = 0\}$, with :

$$\phi_t + \mathbf{v} \cdot \nabla \phi = 0$$

MultiD & multi-species models [Alpkvist & Klapper, 2007]



Time evolution of a biofilm (red : active biomass; blue : inert biomass)

Quorum sensing modeling [Anguige, King & Ward, 2006]

A multi-phase mathematical model of quorum sensing in a maturing *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* biofilm

K. Anguige ^a, J.R. King ^b, J.P. Ward ^{c,*}

- 4 phases : living cells(B), dead cells(D), EPS(E) and liquid(L).
- 1 common velocity for B , D and E and 1 velocity for L .
- Influence of Quorum Sensing (QS) and treatments

Equations :

- * Mass conservation for B , D , E and L .

$$\partial_t B + \operatorname{div}(Bv) = \dots,$$

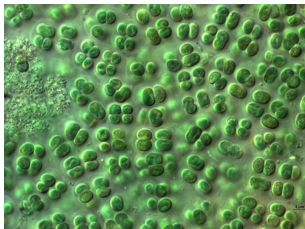
- * Advection-diffusion equations for oxygen, antibiotics, antiQS...

Problems :

- * Closure of the system thanks to the **condition** : $L = L_0 + \alpha E$.
- * Multi-species **1D** PDE model.

Cyanobacteria biofilms in fountains

[Clarelli, Di Russo, Natalini, R., J. Math. Biol. 2013 & Math. Med. Biol., 2016]



Model characteristics :

- * Spatial dependency **without interface**
- * Natural closure of equations in 2D, 3D
- * **Water** = limiting factor (death during cold and dry seasons)
- * Cyanobacteria embedded within EPS $\Rightarrow$ same velocity
- * Influence of **light**

Mass conservation equations

adapted from [Anguige, King & Ward, 2006]

Unknowns :

- * B, D, E, L = volume fractions of cyanoBacteria, Dead cyanobacteria, EPS and Liquid.
- * v_S = cells and EPS velocities; v_L = liquid velocity.

□ Mass conservation equations are :

$$\partial_t B + \operatorname{div}(B v_S) = \Gamma_B,$$

$$\partial_t D + \operatorname{div}(D v_S) = \Gamma_D,$$

$$\partial_t E + \operatorname{div}(E v_S) = \Gamma_E,$$

$$\partial_t L + \operatorname{div}(L v_L) = \Gamma_L.$$

$\Gamma_B, \Gamma_D, \Gamma_E, \Gamma_L$
= mass exchange rates

□ Volume constraint :

$$B + D + E + L = 1.$$

Mass exchange rates

Modeling biology !

* **Mass conservation** : $\Gamma_B + \Gamma_D + \Gamma_E + \Gamma_L = 0$.

* Mass exchange rate for B (cyanobacteria) :

$$\Gamma_B = \underbrace{k_B(I) LB}_{\text{birth term for bacteria}} - \underbrace{k_D B}_{\text{death term for cyanobacteria}}$$

* Mass exchange rate for D (dead bacteria) :

$$\Gamma_D = \underbrace{\alpha k_D B}_{\text{bacteria death}} - \underbrace{k_N D}_{\text{natural decrease}}$$

* Mass exchange rate for E (EPS) :

$$\Gamma_E = \underbrace{k_E LB}_{\text{EPS production}} - \underbrace{\varepsilon E}_{\text{natural decrease}}$$

* I : Influence of light [Thebault, Rabouille, 2003]

Velocity equations

Modeling physics !

Recall :

$$\partial_t \rho + \operatorname{div} F = 0, \text{ with } F = \rho v$$

Velocity given by momentum conservation equation :

$$\partial_t(\rho v) + \overbrace{\operatorname{div}(\rho v \otimes v)}^{\text{inertial term}} = \text{Ext. forces}$$

Velocity equations

Velocity given by momentum conservation equation :

$$\partial_t(\rho \mathbf{v}) + \overbrace{\operatorname{div}(\rho \mathbf{v} \otimes \mathbf{v})}^{\text{inertial term}} = \text{Ext. forces}$$

[Rajagopal-Tao, 1995 ; Byrne Preziosi, 2001 ; Ambrosi Preziosi, 2002 ; Astanin Preziosi, 2008]

□ **Force balance for B , D and E :**

$$\partial_t((1-L)\mathbf{v}_S) + \operatorname{div}((1-L)\mathbf{v}_S \otimes \mathbf{v}_S) = F_{solid}$$

where

$$F_{solid} = \overbrace{\nabla \Sigma}^{\text{constraints}} - \overbrace{(1-L)\nabla P}^{\text{hydro. pressure}} + \underbrace{M(\mathbf{v}_L - \mathbf{v}_S)}_{\text{interaction forces}} \overbrace{-\Gamma_L \mathbf{v}_L}^{\text{momentum cons.}}$$

□ **Force balance for L :**

$$\partial_t(L\mathbf{v}_L) + \operatorname{div}(L\mathbf{v}_L \otimes \mathbf{v}_L) = -L\nabla P - M(\mathbf{v}_L - \mathbf{v}_S) + \Gamma_L \mathbf{v}_L$$

Final system

- * **Equations for the volume fractions :**

$$\partial_t B + \operatorname{div}(B \mathbf{v}_S) = B (Lk_B(I, \theta, N) - k_D(I, \theta, N)),$$

$$\partial_t D + \operatorname{div}(D \mathbf{v}_S) = \alpha B k_D(I, \theta, N) - D k_N(\theta),$$

$$\partial_t E + \operatorname{div}(E \mathbf{v}_S) = B L k_E(\theta) - \varepsilon E,$$

$$L = 1 - (B + D + E)$$

- * **Equations for the velocities :**

$$\begin{aligned} \partial_t((1 - L) \mathbf{v}_S) + \operatorname{div}((1 - L) \mathbf{v}_S \otimes \mathbf{v}_S) + (1 - L) \nabla P &= \nabla \Sigma \\ &+ (M - \Gamma_L) \mathbf{v}_L - M \mathbf{v}_S, \end{aligned}$$

$$\partial_t(L \mathbf{v}_L) + \operatorname{div}(L \mathbf{v}_L \otimes \mathbf{v}_L) + L \nabla P = -(M - \Gamma_L) \mathbf{v}_L + M \mathbf{v}_S$$

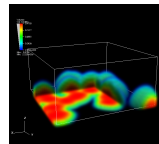
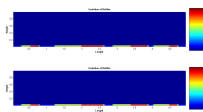
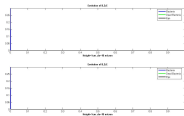
- * **Incompressibility :**

$$\operatorname{div}((1 - L) \mathbf{v}_S + L \mathbf{v}_L) = 0.$$

Cyanobacteria biofilms : contributions

[Clarelli, Di Russo, Natalini, R., J. Math. Biol. 2013 & Math. Med. Biol.,2016]

- * Multi-phases hyperbolic model from mixture theory accounting for physics and biology
- * Modeling the dependency on light
- * Stationary solutions and their stability in 1D
- * 1D, 2D analysis [Bianchini-Natalini 2016 - 2019]
- * Numerical study
 - Numerical scheme : problems of vacuum and pressure
 - Parameter estimates
 - Sensibility analysis
- * Simulations in 1D , 2D, 3D



1D (60 days) , 2D (180 days), 3D (30 days)

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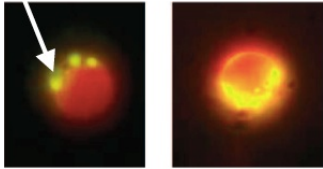
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Microalgae

Use : **biofuel**, alimentary, cosmetic, water treatment,...

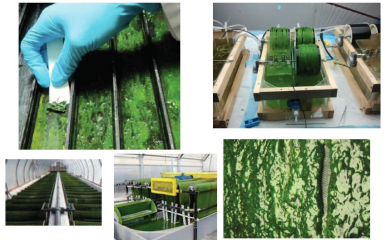


Production :

Raceways



Biofilms



Microalgae biofilms producing lipids

[Polizzi, Bernard, R., J. Math. Biol. 17 & Polizzi, Fanesi, Lopes, R., Bernard, PLOS Comp. Biol. 22]

Aims of the model :

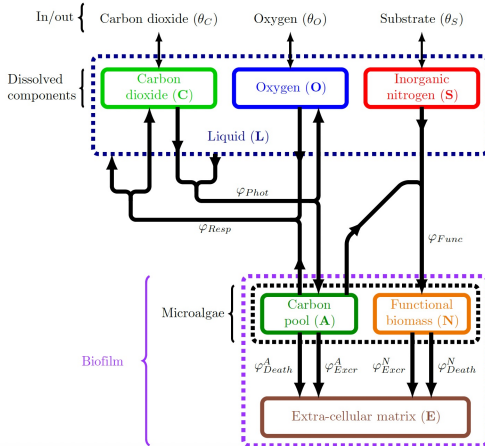
- * Modeling in details photosynthesis & other chemical reactions
- * Extra-cellular matrix excretion
- * Influence of **nutrient deficiency**

⇒ Particular care to **mass exchange terms**

Model components :

- * Microalgae = functional part **N** & carbon storage (lipids...) **A**
- * Extra-cellular matrix **E**
- * Liquid phase **L**
- * Nutrients : nitrates **S**, carbon (bicarbonate) **C**, oxygen **O**

Considered reactions

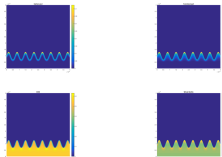
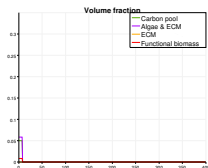


- * Photosynthesis : assimilation of inorganic carbon (C) to (A)
- * Respiration
- * Biomass growth : from carbon (A) to functional part (N)
- * Extra polymeric substrate excretion (organic carbon) (E)
- * Death : from (A) and (N) to (E)

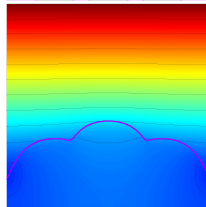
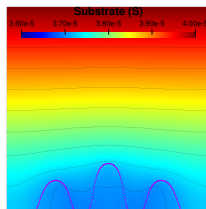
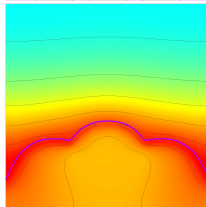
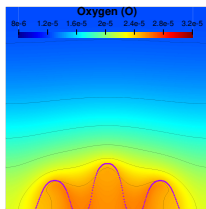
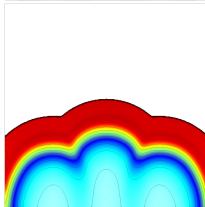
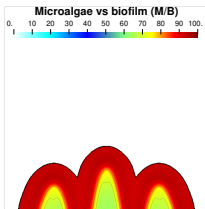
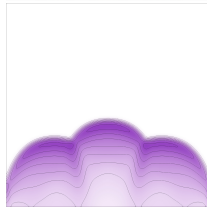
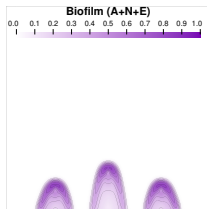
Contributions

[Polizzi, Bernard, R., J. Math. Biol. 17 & Polizzi, Fanesi, Lopes, R., Bernard, PLOS Comp. Biol. 22]

- * Source terms from chemical reactions with saturation/inhibition/threshold/optimal value effects
- * Supplementary equations for nutrients
- * Numerical study
 - Numerical scheme : problems of stiff source terms + more complex incompressibility equation
 - Estimate and influence of various parameters
- * Simulations in 1D, 2D
- * Optimization of the harvesting technique

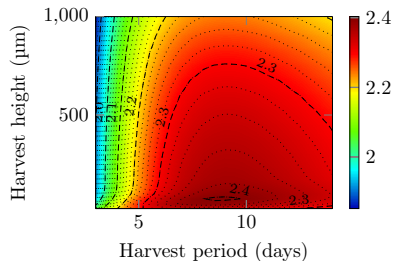


Numerical results (2D case)- $T=5$ and 20 days

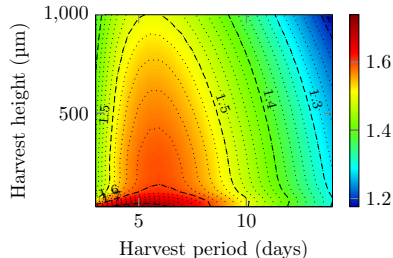


Optimization of the harvesting technique

Daily production rates



Biofilm A + N + E



ECM E

Microalgae A+N

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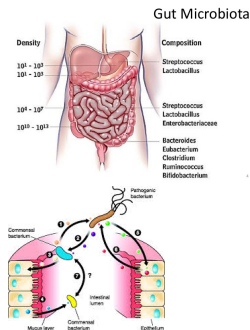
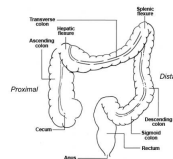
Various models for biofilms

Application 1 : microalgae biofilms

Application 2 : gut microbiota

Colon & gut microbiota

- Largest number of bacteria and species in the body
- Disorders (dysbiosis) associated to metabolic, inflammatory, mental diseases
- Role : **body hydration** by pumping water
- Protective layer of **mucus** that separates bacteria from tissue
- **Microbial community** :
 - * Digestion
 - * Control pathogens
 - * Regulate immune system



⇒ Important study in microbiology

Gut microbiota

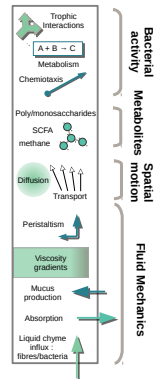
[El Bouti, Goudon, Labarthe, Laroche, Polizzi, Rachah, R., Tesson, ESAIM Proc 16], [Labarthe, Polizzi, Phan, Goudon, R., Laroche, J. Th. Biol. 2019]

Aims of the model :

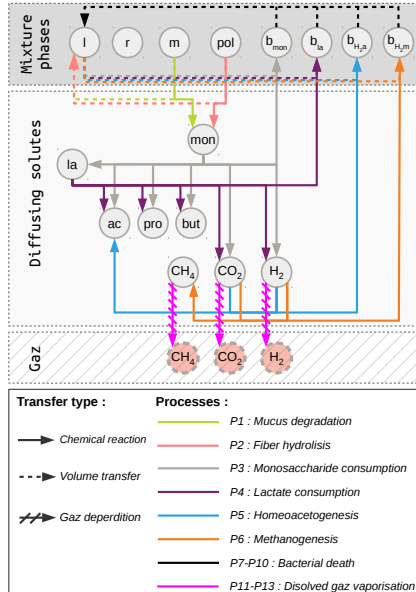
- * Describe **microbiota in its physical environment**
- * Understand how bacteria remain in colon, overcoming flow

Features of the model :

- * **Metabolic description** of the digestion process in the colon [Muñoz-Tamayo et al, JTB 10; Moorthy et al., PLOS One 15]
- * **Hydrodynamical description** (luminal flow, mucus structure,...)[Cremer, Hwa et al. PNAS 16 & 17]
- * Bacteria patial behaviour (chemotaxis, peristalsis, ...)



Metabolic description



Simplified mixture model - Case of 2 phases

[El Bouti, Goudon, Labarthe, Laroche, Polizzi, Rachah, R., Tesson, ESAIM Proc 16]

M = mucus volume fraction, L = liquid volume fraction,
 V = velocity, P = pressure

* **Mass conservation** :

$$\partial_t M + \operatorname{div}(MV) - \operatorname{div}(\sigma_M \nabla M) = F(M, L)$$

$$\partial_t L + \operatorname{div}(LV) - \operatorname{div}(\sigma_L \nabla L) = -F(M, L)$$

$$M + L = 1$$

⇒ **Incompressibility constraint** :

$$\operatorname{div} V = \operatorname{div}((\sigma_M - \sigma_L) \nabla M)$$

* **Stokes equation** :

$$-\operatorname{div} \left(\mu(M) \left(\nabla V + \nabla^T V \right) \right) + \nabla P = 0$$

Generalization to 8 components + 8 solutes

- **Mass balance eq.** for 8 components (f_i =volume fraction) :
(mucus, polysaccharides, indigestible residuals, liquid, 4 bacteria)

$$\partial_t f_i + \operatorname{div}(f_i u_i) - \operatorname{div}(\sigma \nabla f_i) = F_i$$

- * Volume constraint : $\sum_i f_i = 1$

- * Velocity : $u_i = u + \theta_{i,chem}$ ($\theta_{i,chem}$ =chemotaxis velocity)

- **Mass balance eq.** for 8 solutes (c_j =concentration) :
(monosaccharides, lactate, H₂, acetate, propionate, butyrate, CH₄ and CO₂)

$$\partial_t c_j + \operatorname{div}(c_j \tilde{u}) - \operatorname{div}(\sigma_j \nabla c_j) = G_j$$

- * No volume

- * Velocity : $\tilde{u} = \sum_i f_i u_i$

- **Stokes equation** (u =velocity ; p =pressure)

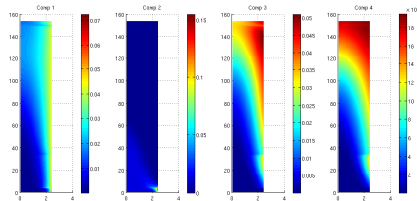
$$-\operatorname{div}(\mu(f_m, f_l)(\nabla u + \nabla u^T)) + \nabla p = 0$$

- On boundaries : peristalsis, water pumping, mucus production, SCFA absorption, ...

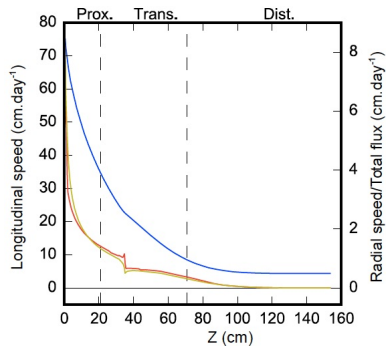
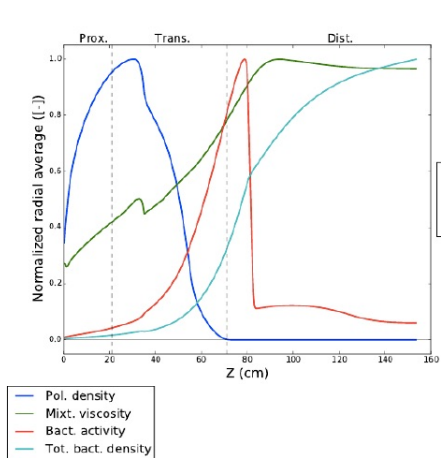
Contributions

[El Bouti, Goudon, Labarthe, Laroche, Polizzi, Rachah, R., Tesson, ESAIM Proc 16], [Labarthe, Polizzi, Phan, Goudon, R., Laroche, J. Th. Biol. 2019]

- * **Coupling** between metabolic processes and fluid mechanism (viscosity)
- * Modeling of chemotaxis, of peristalsis, ...
- * Asymptotic model in the limit $\varepsilon = R/L \ll 1$
- * Numerical study
- * Sensitivity analysis
- * Simulations in 1D, 2D



Reference state

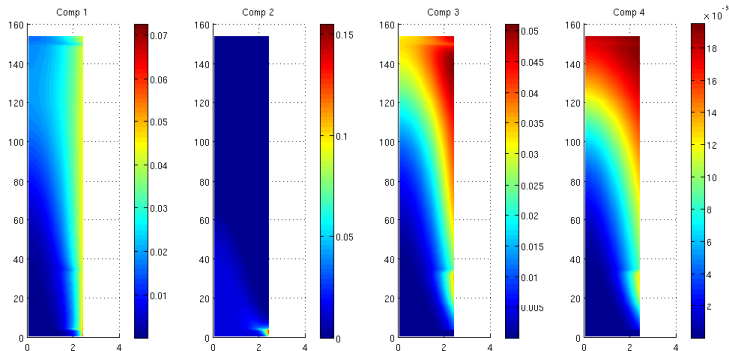


— U_z Long. speed

— U_r Radial speed

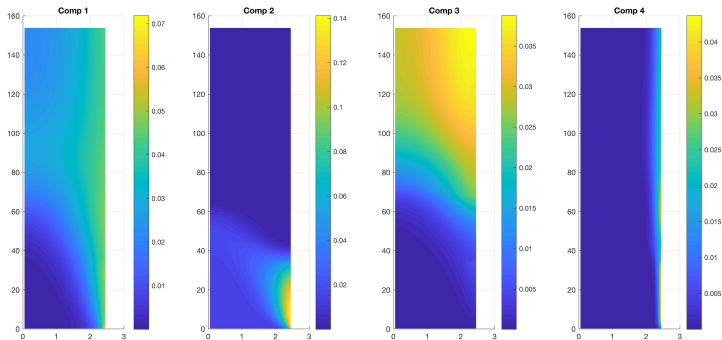
— $\sum_i \gamma_i$ Total flux

Persistence of mucus layer & bacteria - Spatial structure



from left to right :mucus, polysaccharides, bacteria (monosaccharides),
bacteria (lactate)

Competition between bacteria in the gut



from left to right : mucus, polysaccharides, bacteria 1 & bacteria 2
(case when bacteria 1 $\geq$ bacteria 2 for metabolism ; bacteria 2 $\geq$ bacteria 1 for chemotaxis)