# MODELLING GROWTH: HYDRAULICS AND MECHANICS

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#### PLANTS ARE UNDER PRESSURE THANKS TO WATER FLUXES





Water stress

After a few hours

# Water fluxes $\leftrightarrow$ Turgor

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Cell scale:



Plasmolyzed

Turgid

# Water fluxes $\leftrightarrow$ Turgor





# Osmosis = motor for fluxes VSWalls = resistance to growth $\Rightarrow$ Turgor



**Growth** = simultaneous water flux and wall enlargement

#### LOCKHART (1965) AND ORTEGA (1985) MODELS

$$\Psi_{ext}$$
$$\Psi = P - \pi$$

Water flux into the cell:  $\frac{\mathrm{d}V}{\mathrm{d}t} = AL(\Psi_{ext} - \Psi)$ From high to low water potential

 $\Psi$ : water potential *P*: hydrostatic pressure  $\pi$ : osmotic pressure

A: cell area L: water conductivity LOCKHART (1965) AND ORTEGA (1985) MODELS Growth in one direction



# Mechanical equilibrium

between cell turgor P and wall stress  $\sigma$ :

 $P\propto\sigma$ 

## Wall enlargement:



Simple geometry  $\Rightarrow$  easy coupling and resolution

# LOCKHART (1965) AND ORTEGA (1985) MODELS

- Theoretical framework to understand plant growth
- Flux  $\leftrightarrow$  turgor  $\leftrightarrow$  growth  $\leftrightarrow$  wall enlargement
- Very useful to interpret experimental data
- Extended to larger scales: organ = 1 compartment e.g [Fishman-Génard (1998)]:



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Goal: **multicellular extension** 2D, focus on mechanics / hydraulics

### CELL WALL MECHANICS

• Mechanical equilibrium on vertices



 $P_i$ : pressures of the **cells**  $\sigma_k$ : elastic stresses of the **walls** 

Balance for each vertex:

$$\frac{1}{2} \sum_{i} P_{i} l_{i} \vec{n}_{i} + \sum_{k} \sigma_{k} w \vec{e}_{k} = \vec{0}$$
  
$$\vec{e}_{k}, \vec{n}_{i} : \text{tangential and normal vectors}$$
  
$$l_{i}, w : \text{length and width of the walls}$$

• Wall enlargement

$$\frac{1}{l_k} \frac{\mathrm{d}l_k}{\mathrm{d}t} = \frac{1}{E_k} \frac{\mathrm{d}\sigma_k}{\mathrm{d}t} + \phi_k (\sigma_k - \sigma_k^Y)$$
**Elongation**

$$\stackrel{\text{Elastic}}{\operatorname{response}} \quad \stackrel{\text{Wall}}{\operatorname{synthesis}} \quad \stackrel{\text{Yield stress}}{\operatorname{synthesis}}$$

#### APOPLASMIC AND SYMPLASMIC FLUXES



 $\pi_i$  are assumed **constant**   $L^a$ : apoplasmic conductivity  $L^s$ : symplasmic conductivity  $\psi^a$ : water potential of the apoplasm

 $P_i, P_j$ : turgor pressures  $\pi_i$ : osmotic pressure  $A_i$ : area of cell *i*  $A_{ij}$ : area between cells *i* and *j* 

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#### FIRST EXAMPLE



- Homogeneous parameters
- Realistic values
- Global growth rate ~ 2% per hour



Heterogeneous, non constant turgor and growth rate

#### A LITTLE HETEROGENEITY





#### LARGE GROWTH RATE HETEROGENEITY



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#### ROLE OF SYMPLASMIC FLUXES



Twice **softer** walls

+ inhibition of symplasmic fluxes

#### SYMPLASMIC FLUXES INHIBITED



No symplasmic fluxes, Low growth heterogeneities

Non linear effect: fluxes amplify heterogeneities



#### CONCLUSION

- Coupling hydraulics / mechanics
- Physically consistant model
- Realistic parameters, fully explored
- Complex, non linear behavior
- Fluxes can **amplify heterogeneities**
- Extensible in **3D**
- Allows comparison with experiments:
  - Measurement of turgor, mechanical properties
  - Shape evolution  $\Rightarrow$  development, morphogenesis

#### PROSPECTS: TOMATO PERICARP MODEL

Small fruit Thin pericarp Low ploidy level



WT P3D3 P1B3 P30A9 1 cm

C. Rothan, L. Fernandez (INRA Bordeaux)

### PROSPECTS: 3D FRUIT MODEL WITH VASCULATURE

#### Previous work in our group: Mik Cieslak [M. Cieslak, IC, F. Boudon, V. Baldazzi, M. Génard, C. Godin, N. Bertin 2016: submitted]



- 3D reconstruction
- Fruit divided in tetraedra
- Vasculature reconstruction
- Prediction of water and sugar fluxes

### Physiology + 3D mechanics + hydraulics ???