

Towards Intelligent Interfaces for Computational Heart Models: A feasibility study for an MDE application in biomedical engineering

Report on seedcorn project Steffen Zschaler, Steven Niederer

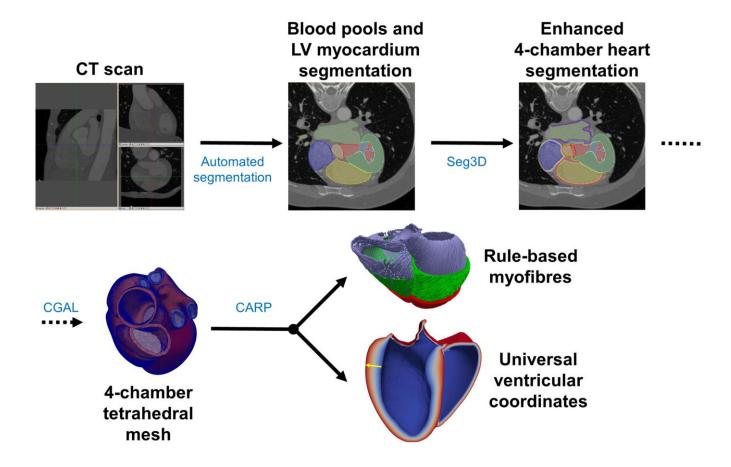
Computational models of hearts

- Important for personalised predictive medicine
- Derived from imaging data
- Use simulation to understand how electric stimulus travels across organ tissue

Highly complicated to construct, requiring broad range of skills



Computational models of hearts





Challenges

- Configuring the simulation
 - Currently done via command line parameters at very low level
 - Errors can be difficult to spot before running the simulation
 - Errors that only occur during a simulation run mean wasted time, cost, and effort
 - Can we help with a language that flags issues earlier?
 - Common issues: duplicate definitions of tissue areas with different properties, stimulus placed outside of tissue



What did we do?

- Developed a prototype language using TextX
 - Define and combine mesh sources
 - Classify tissue parts and assign properties
 - Define stimuli and general simulation configuration parameters
- Demonstrated feasibility
 - Easier to define simulator configurations
 - Potential to spot errors before simulation execution



Ongoing collaboration

- Secured cross-faculty funding for a PhD student
- Secured funding for DT4Health
 - Centre for Doctoral Training on Digital Twins for Healthcare
 - Three cohorts of students, starting '23/24

