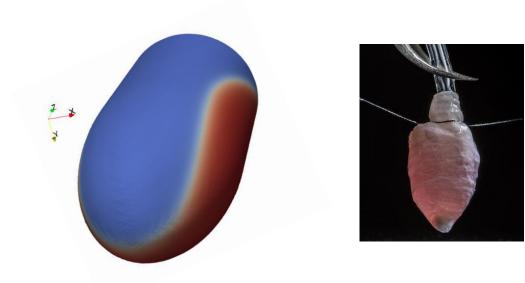




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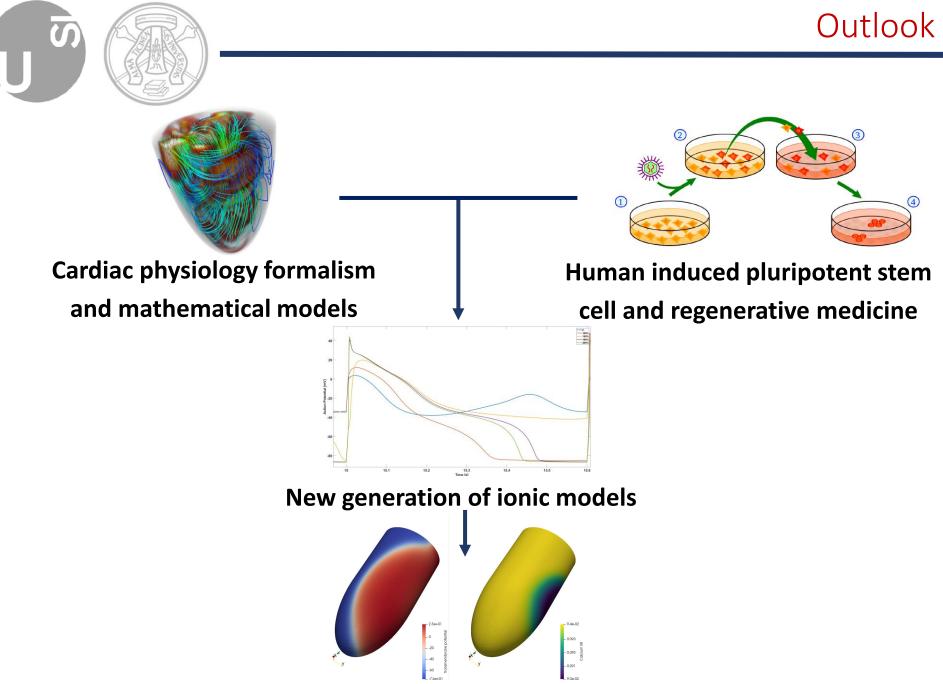


### FROM CARDIAC STEM CELL IONIC MODELS TO ISOGEOMETRIC SIMULATIONS OF 3D CARDIAC TISSUE

Sofia Botti

UNIPV-USI Ph.D. Program in Computational mathematics and decision sciences Supervisor: Prof. Luca F. Pavarino

> Spring Workshop 2022 March 16-17



3D simulations of cardiac tissue, using isogeometric analysis framework

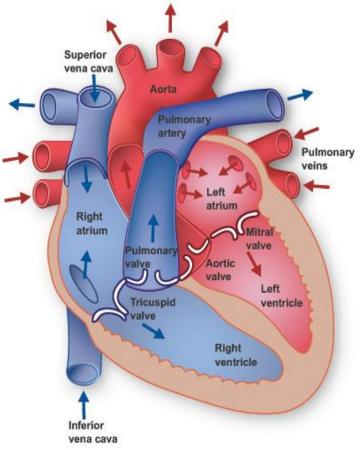


### **Elements of Cardiac Physiology**

Cardiac physiology studies the healthy (or unimpaired) cardiac function of the heart.

This includes:

- The electrical conduction system
- The myocardium structure (relaxation and contraction)
- Blood flow
- Valves
- Mutual interaction of components



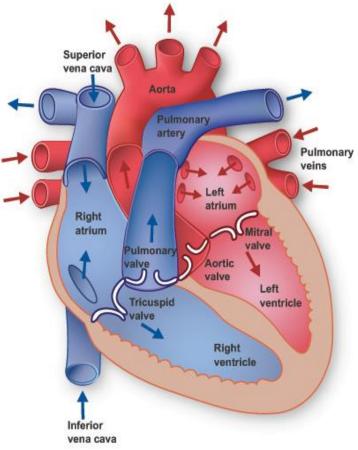


### **Elements of Cardiac Physiology**

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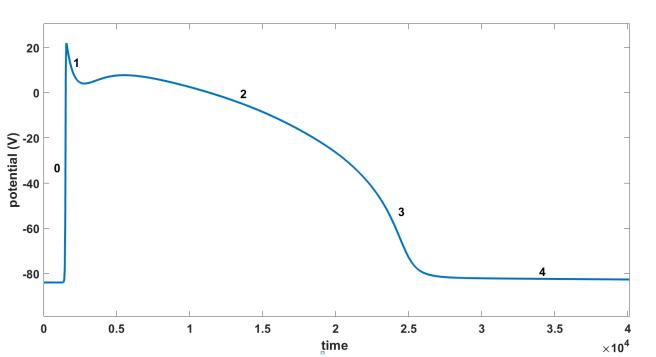




#### **The Action Potential**

Cardiomyocytes are excitable cells, i.e. they have the ability to respond actively to electric stimuli. In resting condition, the cells maintain ionic concentrations (different from those outside).

The action potential of charged ions through the membrane determines an electric potential difference across the membrane, called **transmembrane potential**.



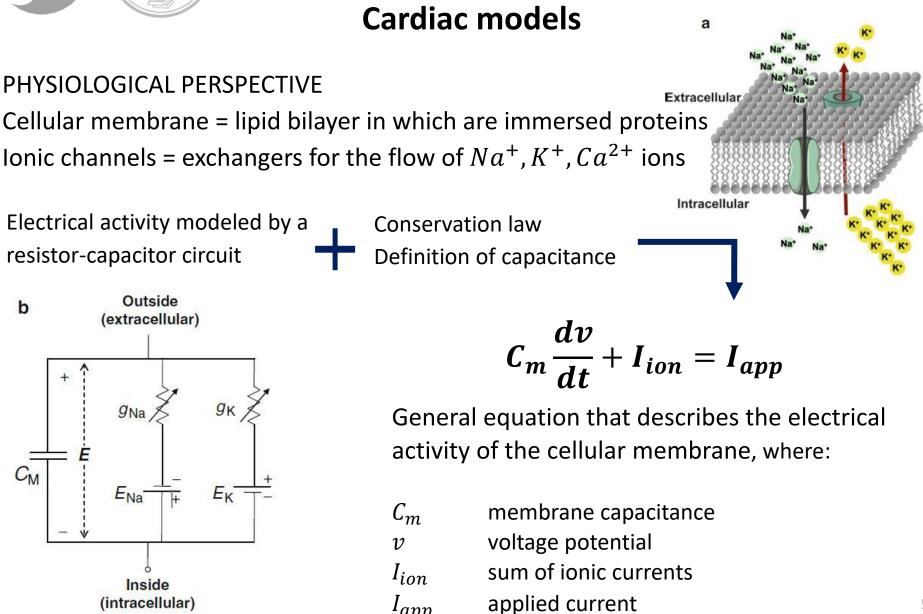
This phenomenon is described by the action potential

- 0 Depolarization
- 1 Early repolarization
- 2 Plateau
- 3 Repolarization
  - Resting





b



I<sub>app</sub>

7



#### **Mathematical formulation**

The modern and general cardiac membrane model, with N ionic currents, M gating variables and  $w = (w_1 \dots w_M)$ , S ionic concentrations,  $c = (c_1 \dots c_s)$ , can be written as a system of ODEs

$$\begin{cases} C_m \frac{dv}{dt} + I_{ion}(v, \boldsymbol{w}, \boldsymbol{c}) = I_{app} \\ \frac{d\boldsymbol{w}}{dt} = R(v, \boldsymbol{w}) \\ \frac{d\boldsymbol{c}}{dt} = S(v, \boldsymbol{w}, \boldsymbol{c}) \\ v(0) = v_0, \quad \boldsymbol{w}(0) = \boldsymbol{w}_0, \quad \boldsymbol{c}(0) = \boldsymbol{c}_0, \end{cases}$$

Where *R* and *S* are specific functions,  $v_0$ ,  $w_0$ ,  $c_0$  are the initial conditions and

$$I_{ion}(v, w, c) = \sum_{k=1}^{N} G_k(v, c) \sum_{j=1}^{M} w_j^{p_{j_k}}(v - v_k(c)) + I_n(v, w, c)$$



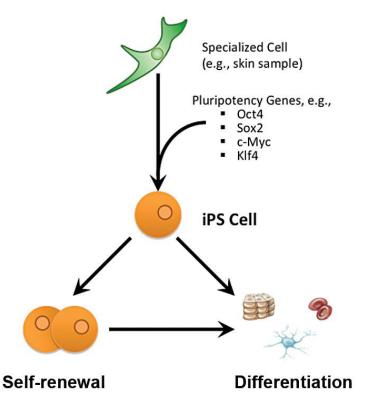
### **Cardiac stem cells ionic models**



### Human Induced Pluripotent Stem Cells (hiPSCs):

# A kind of human pluripotent stem cells that can be directly generated from adult cells

- In 2006 S. Yamanaka and J.
   Gordon (Nobel Prize for Medicine), created iPSCs starting from mouse somatic cells
- hiPSCs can be propagated almost indefinitely and provide a constant source of differentiated cells, including Cardiac Myocytes (CMs)



S. Yamanaka, Induction of Pluripotent Stem Cells from Mouse Embrionic and Adult Fibroblast Cultures by Dened Factors, in Cell, 2006

9



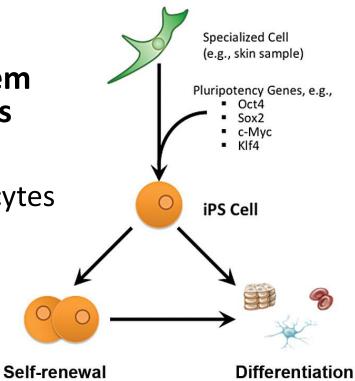
#### Human Induced Pluripotent Stem Cells (hiPSCs):

A kind of human pluripotent stem cells that can be directly generated from adult cells

#### Human Induced Pluripotent Stem Cells – derived cardiomyocytes (hiPSC-CMs):

Spontaneous beating cardiomyocytes derived from hiPSCs

They are functionally similar to adult human cardiomyocytes and exhibit expected responses to cardiac stimuli





#### Ionic model for Ventricle-like hiPSC-CMs

The current model for hiPSC-CMs with a ventricle phenotype was published in 2018 by M. Paci and S. Severi.

The model consists in a set of **22 ODEs for 22 variables**:

I f K1 pCa **15** gating variables for membrane currents Ca ; Cytosol bCa <sup>Ca</sup> Sarcoplasmic I CaL Ca Reticulum Ca<sub>SR</sub> **3** gating variables 102 involved in calcium dynamic NaCa leak

M. Paci et al., Automatic Optimization of an in Silico Model of Human iPSC Derived Cardiomyocytes Recapitulating Calcium Handling Abnormalities, in Frontiers in Physiology 9 (2018)

Ks

K<sup>+</sup>

NaK

I bNa

Na

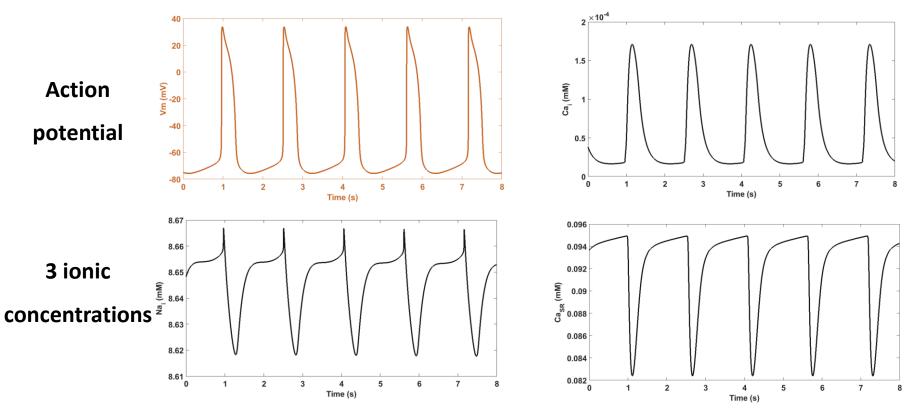
NaL



#### Ionic model for Ventricle-like hiPSC-CMs

The current model for hiPSC-CMs with a ventricle phenotype was published in 2018 by M. Paci and S. Severi.

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Analysis are numerically simulated by Matlab ode15s

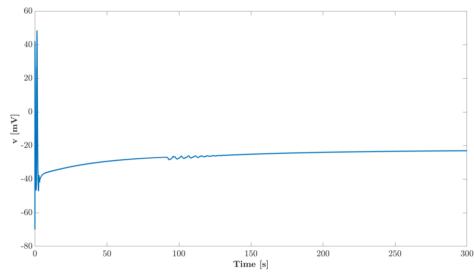


#### **Experimental background**

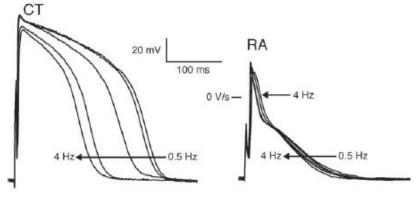
Atrial like hiPSC-CMs increasing interest to study atrial fibrillation

In undifferentiated hiPSC-CMs the *Inward Rectifier Potassium Current (IK1)* expression is still too low or lacking

$$\Rightarrow I_{K1} = 0$$



Treatment of differentiating hiPSC-CMs with *Retinoic acid* promotes atrial specification



Devalla et al., Atrial-like cardiomyocytes from human pluripotent stem cells are robust preclinical model for assessing atrial-selective pharmacology, in Embo Molecular Medicine (2015)

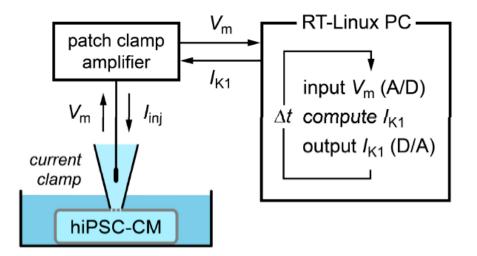


#### **Dynamic clamp**

Several attempts have been proposed to mature hiPSC-CMs through an increase of  $I_{K1}$ 

The dynamic clamp (DC) uses computer simulation to introduce artificial membrane currents into the cell and create hybrid circuits of real and model cells.

The membrane potential  $V_m$ is continuously sampled into a Real-Time Linux based pc. The  $V_m$ -dependent current  $I_{K1}$  is computed and injected with the stimulus current  $I_{stim}$ 

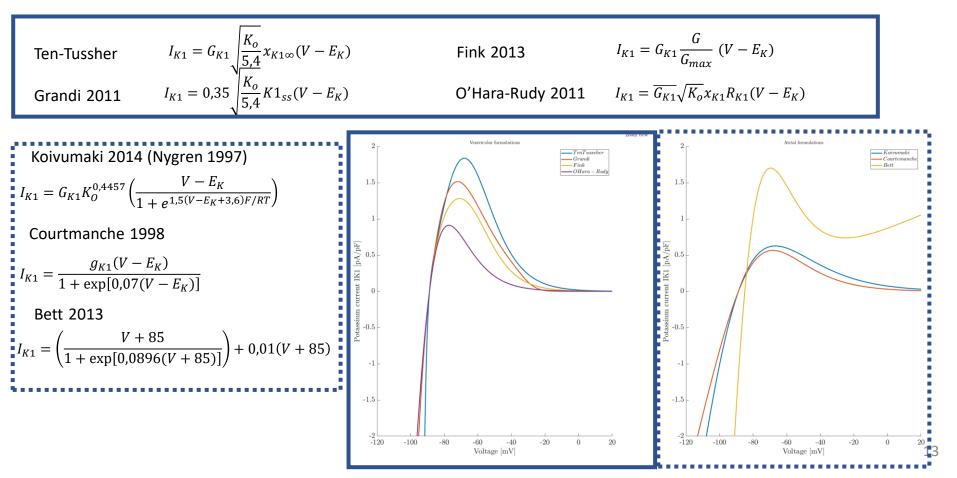




#### Virtual dynamic clamp

## *In-silico* replica of the dynamic clamp, performing the Atrial Paci 2013 and the Ventricular Paci 2013, published by Paci et al. (first generation models, without calcium dynamic)

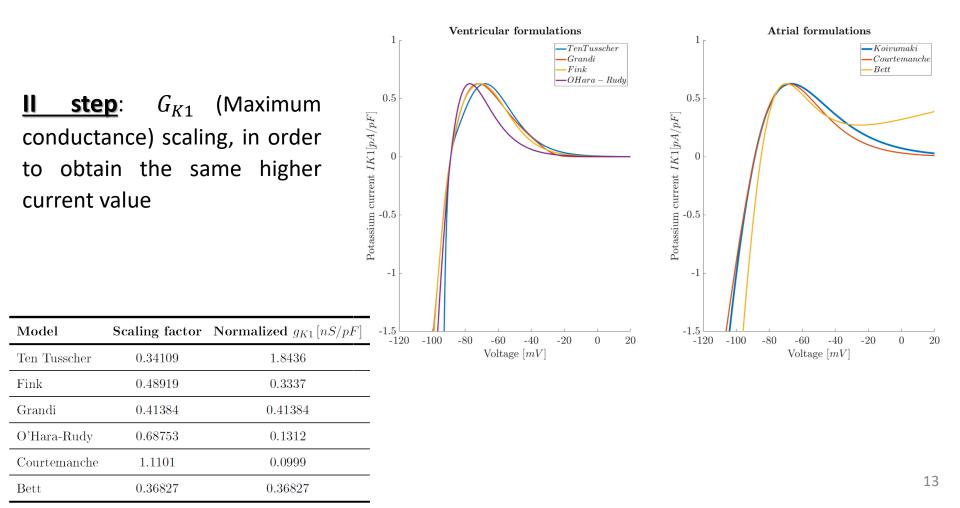
**<u>I</u> step**: Evaluation of 6 different  $I_{K1}$  model structures available in the literature





#### Virtual dynamic clamp

*In-silico* replica of the dynamic clamp, performing the Atrial Paci 2013 and the Ventricular Paci 2013, published by Paci et al. (first generation models, without calcium dynamic)

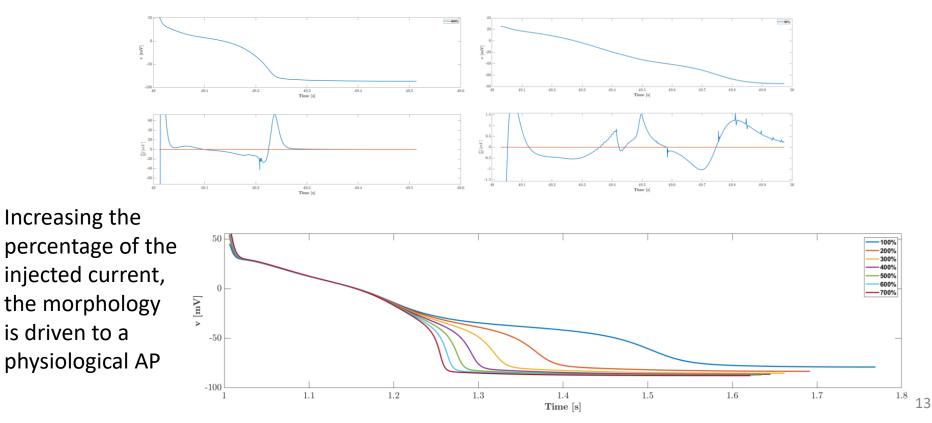




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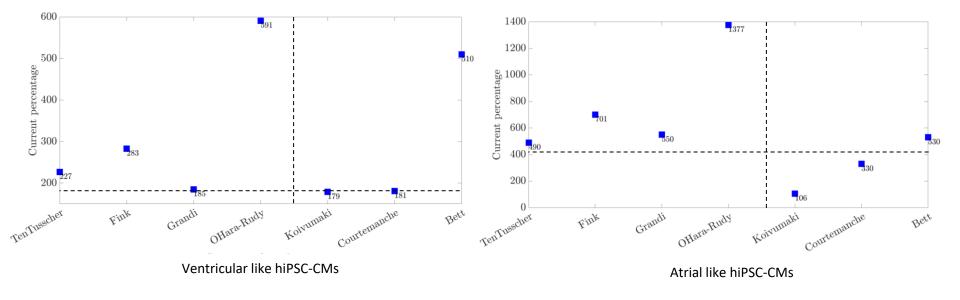
**<u>III</u> step**: Physiological and non-physiological AP morphology definition, mathematically discriminated by the number of inflections





#### Virtual dynamic clamp

*In-silico* replica of the dynamic clamp, performing the Atrial Paci 2013 and the Ventricular Paci 2013, published by Paci et al. (first generation models, without calcium dynamic)



**<u>Results</u>**: Required  $I_{K1}$  percentages are higher for atrial like formulations  $\Rightarrow$  The same injected current could produce non physiological action potential in the atrial like cell  $\Rightarrow$  **Atrial like potassium formulations are elegible in the DC** 





### Ionic model for Atrial-like hiPSC-CMs



Starting from Cardiocentrum Ticino biomarkers...

Create a new ionic model for Atrial like hiPSC-CMs



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#### Ionic model for Atrial-like hiPSC-CMs

**I step:** Parameters update of the best Ventricular model, Paci 2020, using the same scaling of Paci 2013, considering virtual basic fitting parameters of mixed phenotypes

Current	Year	Basic fitting	Ventricular	Atrial	Units
$I_{Na}$	$\begin{array}{c} 2013\\ 2020 \end{array}$	$G_{Na} = 6329.7$ $G_{Na} = G_{Na,v}/0.58$	$0.58 * G_{Na} = 3671.2$ $G_{Na,v} = 64471.1896$	$1.05 * G_{Na} = 6646.2$ $G_{Na,a} = 1.05 * G_{Na} = 116720$	S/F S/F
$I_{CaL}$	2013/2020 2013/2020 2013/2020 2013/2020	$Vh_d = -9.1$ $Vh_f = -26$ $Vh_{f2} = -32$ $\tau_{f2}$	$Vh_{d,v} = Vh_d = -9.1$ $Vh_{f,v} = Vh_f = -26$ $Vh_{f2,v} = Vh_{f2} = -32$ $\tau_{f2,v} = tau_{f2}$	$Vh_{d,a} = Vh_d + 3.114 = -5.986$ $Vh_{f,a} = Vh_f + 0.774 = -25.226$ $Vh_{f2,a} = Vh_{f2} + 0.774 = -31.226$ $\tau_{f2,a} = 2 * \tau_{f2}$	mV mV mV ms
$I_f$	$\begin{array}{c} 2013 \\ 2020 \end{array}$	$G_f = 53.76$	$\begin{array}{l} 0.56*G_f = 30.10\\ G_{f,v} = 22.2763088 \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{l} 0.56*G_f = 30.10\\ G_{f,a} = 22.2763088 \end{array}$	S/F S/F
$I_{to}$	$\begin{array}{c} 2013 \\ 2020 \end{array}$	$G_{to} = 59.81$ $G_{to} = G_{to,v}/0.5$	$\begin{array}{l} 0.5*G_{to}=29.9\\ G_{to,v}=29.9038 \end{array}$	$G_{to,a} = G_{to} = 59.81$ $G_{to,a} = G_{to} = 59.8076$	S/F S/F
$I_{K1}$	$\begin{array}{c} 2013 \\ 2020 \end{array}$	$G_{K1} = 25.59$ $G_{K1} = G_{K1,v}/1.1$	$ \begin{array}{l} 1.1 * G_{K1} = 28.15 \\ G_{K1,v} = 28.1492 \end{array} $	$0.75 * G_{K1} = 19.19$ $G_{K1,a} = 0.75 * G_{K1} = 19.1926$	S/F S/F
$C_m$	$\begin{array}{c} 2013 \\ 2020 \end{array}$	$C_m = 88.7$ $C_m = C_m/1.113$	$ \begin{array}{l} 1.113 * C_m = 98.71 \\ C_{m,v} = 98.7109 \end{array} $	$\begin{array}{c} 0.887 * C_m = 78.66 \\ C_{m,a} = 0.887 * C_m = 78.6672 \end{array}$	pF pF



#### Ionic model for Atrial-like hiPSC-CMs

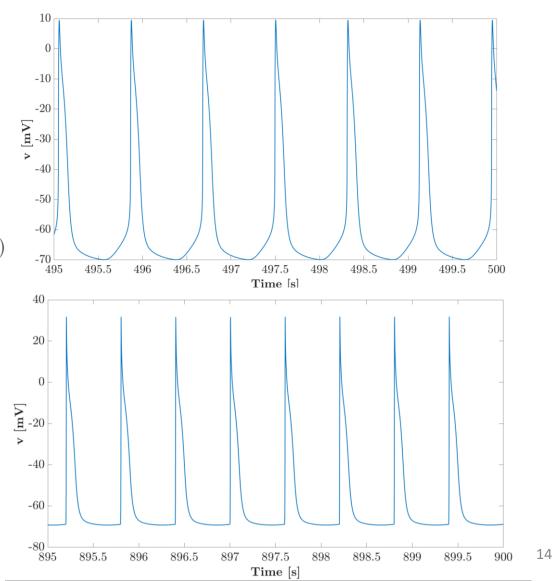
**<u>II step:</u>** Additional atrial specific current: *ultrarapid outward current*  $I_{Kur}$ 

#### Koivumaki Maleckar formulation

$$I_{Kur} = g_{Kur} \cdot a_{ur} \cdot i_{ur} \ (VmV - E_K \cdot 10^3)$$

$$a_{ur,\infty} = \frac{1.0}{1.0 + \exp{-\frac{VmV \cdot 10^3 + 6.0}{8.6}}}$$
$$\tau_{aur} = \frac{0.009}{1.0 + \exp{\frac{VmV + 5.0}{12.0}}} + 0.0005$$
$$\frac{da_{ur}}{dt} = \frac{a_{ur,\infty} - a_{ur}}{\tau_{aur}}$$

$$i_{ur,\infty} = \frac{1.0}{1.0 + \exp\frac{VmV + 7.5}{10.0}}$$
$$\tau_{iur} = \frac{0.59}{1.0 + \exp\frac{VmV + 60.0}{10.0}} + 3.5$$
$$\frac{di_{ur}}{dt} = \frac{i_{ur,\infty} - i_{ur}}{\tau_{iur}}$$





#### Ionic model for Atrial-like hiPSC-CMs

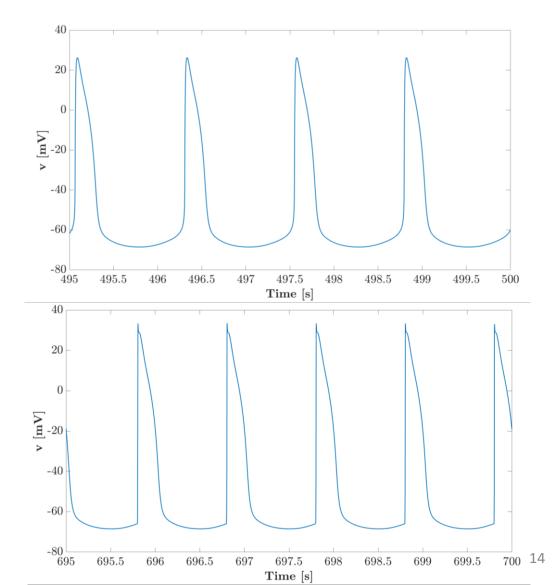
**<u>II step:</u>** Additional atrial specific current: *ultrarapid outward current*  $I_{Kur}$ 

#### **Courtemanche formulation**

()

$$I_{Kur} = g_{Kur} \cdot u_a^3 \cdot u_i \cdot \left(VmV - E_K \cdot 10^3\right)$$
$$g_{Kur} = 0.005 + \frac{0.05}{1.0} + \exp\left(-\frac{VmV - 15.0}{13.0}\right)$$

$$\begin{split} &\alpha_{u(a)} = 0.65 \left[ \exp\left(-\frac{VmV+10.0}{8.5}\right) + \exp\left(-\frac{VmV-30.0}{59.0}\right) \right]^{-1} \\ &\beta_{u(a)} = 0.65 \cdot \left[ 2.5 + \exp\left(-\frac{VmV+82.0}{17.0}\right) \right]^{-1} \\ &\tau_{u(a)} = \frac{K_{Q,10}}{\alpha_{u(a)} + \beta_{u(a)}} \\ &\frac{du_a}{dt} = \frac{u_{a(\infty)} - u_a}{\tau_{u(a)}} \\ &u_{a(\infty)} = \left[ 1.0 + \exp\left(-\frac{VmV+30.0}{9.6}\right) \right]^{-1} \\ &\alpha_{u(i)} = \left[ 21.0 + \exp\left(-\frac{VmV-185.0}{28.0}\right) \right]^{-1} \\ &\beta_{u(i)} = \exp\left(-\frac{VmV+158.0.0}{16.0}\right) \\ &\tau_{iur} = \frac{K_{Q,10}}{\alpha_{u(i)} + \beta_{u(i)}} \\ &\frac{du_i}{dt} = \frac{u_{i(\infty)} - u_i}{\tau_{u(i)}} \\ &u_{i(\infty)} = \left[ 1.0 + \exp\left(-\frac{VmV-99.45}{27.48}\right) \right]^{-1} \end{split}$$





#### Ionic model for Atrial-like hiPSC-CMs

**Next steps: 1.** Parameters calibration, using literature and CCT biomarkers

Tested models	Exp data Unpaced	Atrial Unpaced Paced		<b>Atrial Koivumaki</b> Unpaced Paced		Atrial Courtemanche Unpaced Paced	
MDP  [mV]	$-73.5\pm1.5$	-74.858	-66.5490	-69.9388	-68.9266	-68.5498	-68.4722
$dV/dt_{max}$	_	20.3890	64.3703	24.8421	119.1028	22.10128	107.1832
APA  [mV]	$100.2\pm2.1$	102.030	100.5526	79.5101	99.7257	94.82082	101.8640
$Peak \ [mV]$	$26.7 \pm 1.4$	27.1675	33.98477	9.55838	30.7271	26.26785	33.0917
APD10 [ms]	$60.8\pm5.5$	87.1589	84.3750	14.4785	3.8715	60.40387	47.4125
APD20 [ms]	_	167.596	137.6229	28.7482	8.7657	103.4678	84.8394
APD30 $[ms]$	$123.1\pm10.3$	223.993	192.8139	49.6623	19.5967	144.2292	127.6341
APD50 [ms]	_	300.578	264.8854	84.0664	62.9016	199.4379	191.8454
APD70 $[ms]$	_	334.647	306.3398	106.888	93.0400	231.2435	226.4829
APD90 $[ms]$	$286.9 \pm 21.2$	390.518	340.6575	138.714	128.3481	274.9456	263.8436
RateAP	_	35.0233	60.00175	73.6341	100.0003	48.23846	59.9990
RappAPD	$1.1 \pm 0.1$	2.79240	2.6392	1.6364	1.4785	2.152	2.5525
CL [ms]	$1200\pm200$	1713.14	999.9713	814.839	599.9981	1243.820	1000.0158

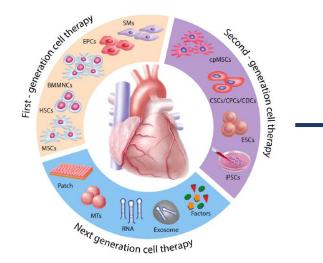
#### **2.** Model validation, performing current block and dynamic clamp expertiments



### **Isogeometric simulations of 3D cardiac tissue**

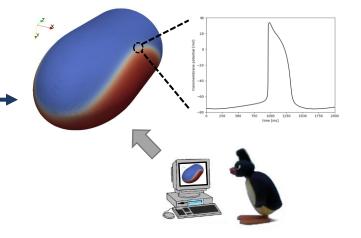


### Isogeometric simulations of hiPSC-CM tissue



Cambria et al., Nat. Reg. Med., **2**, (2017)

MacQueen et al., Nat. Bio. Eng., **2**, 930, (2018)



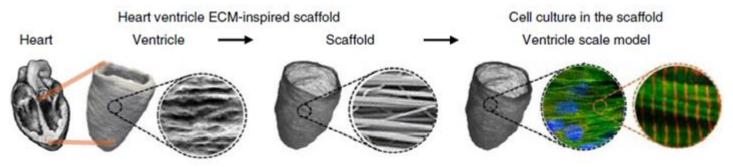
Regenerative medicine

*In-vitro* model Framework for *in-silico* replicas



### Ellipsoidal heart tissue (ventricle scaffold)

Human left ventricle with ellipsoidal shape and circumferentially oriented nanofibers was produced by pull spinning nanofibers onto ellipsoidal collection mandrels



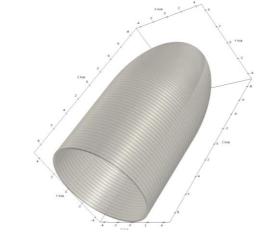
MacQueen et al., Nat. Bio. Eng., 2, 930, (2018)

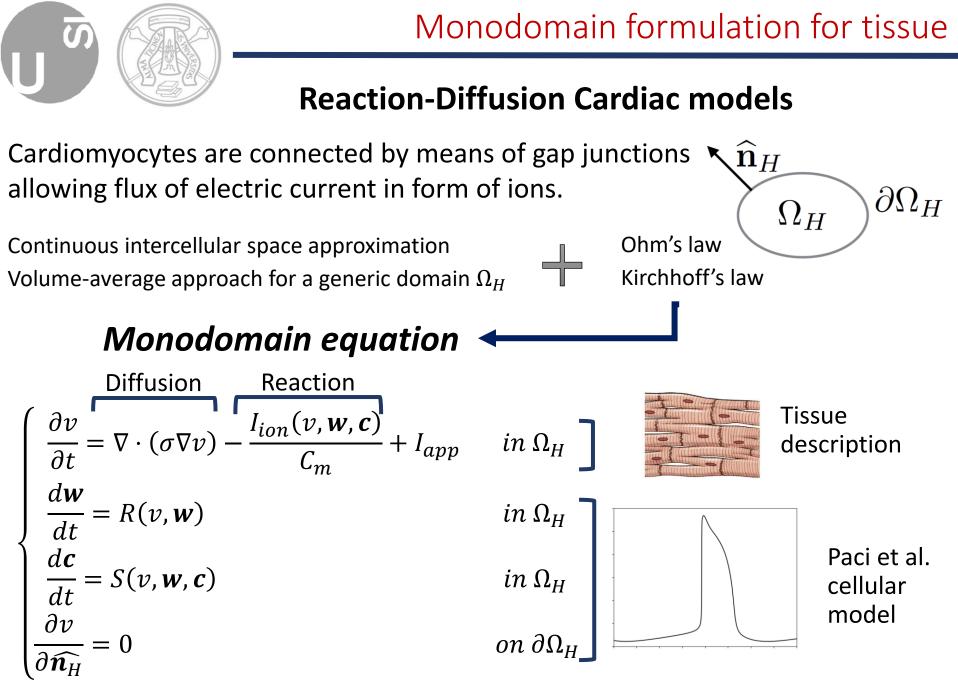
#### From the ellipsoidal collector



Half ellipsoid with Radius 4,5 mm Heigh 9 mm

**Cylinder** with Radius 4,5 mm Heigh 9 mm To the *in-silico* ventricle mesh

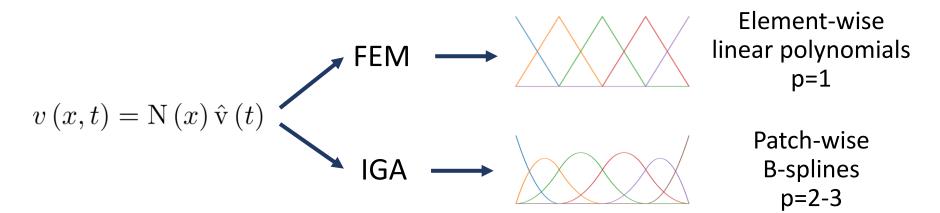


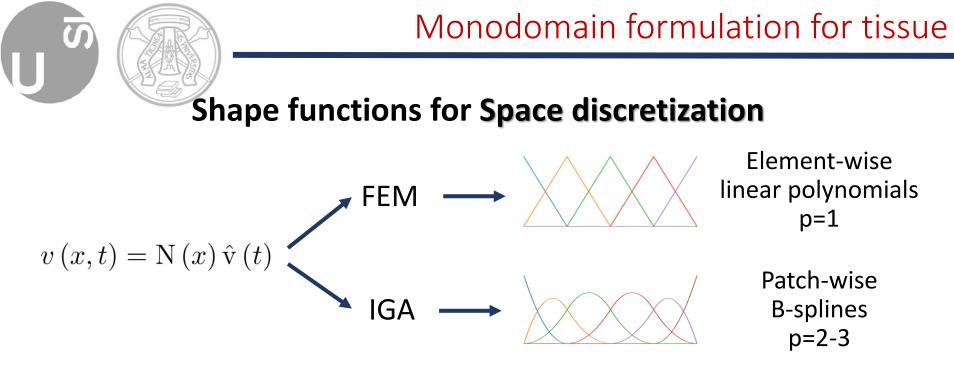




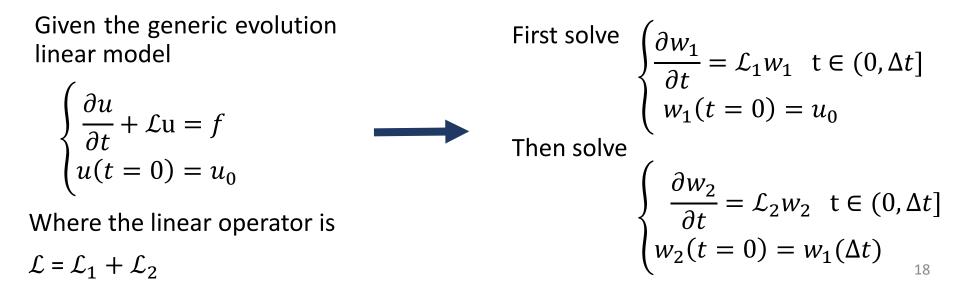
Shape functions for Space discretization

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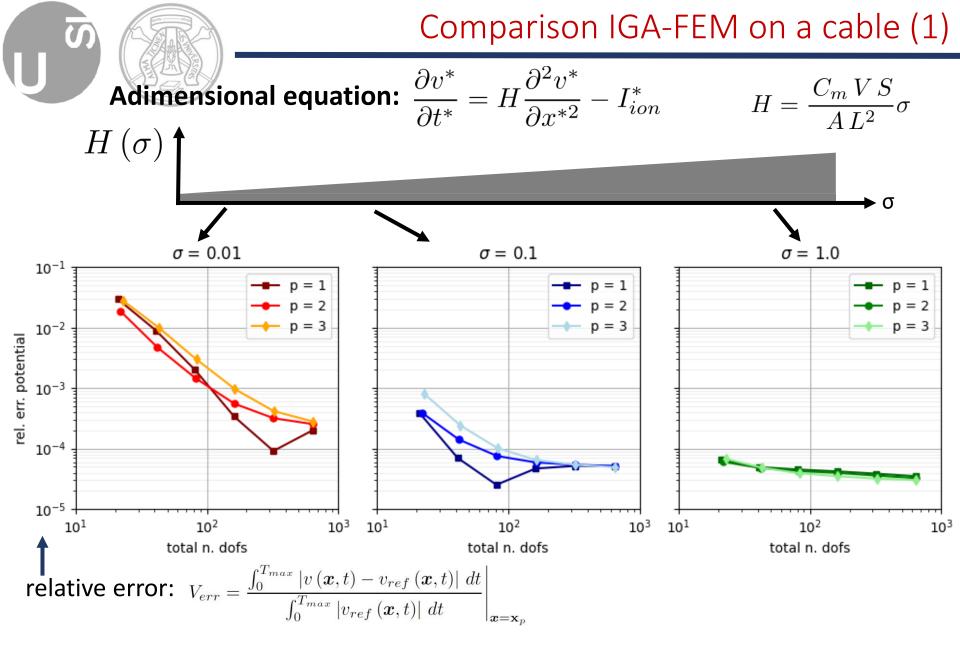


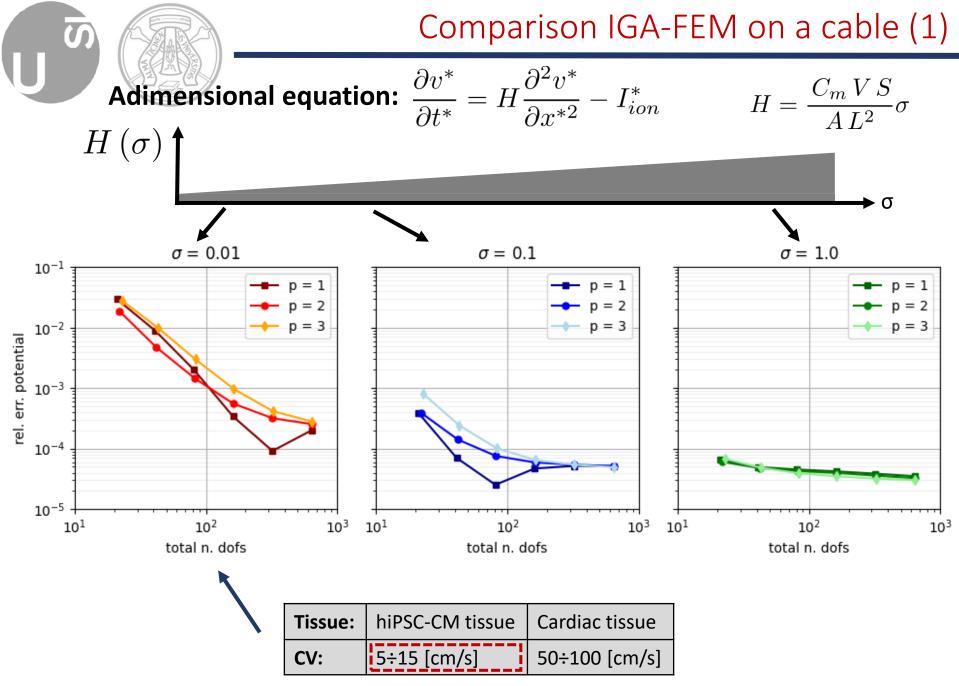


### **Operator splitting for Time discretization**

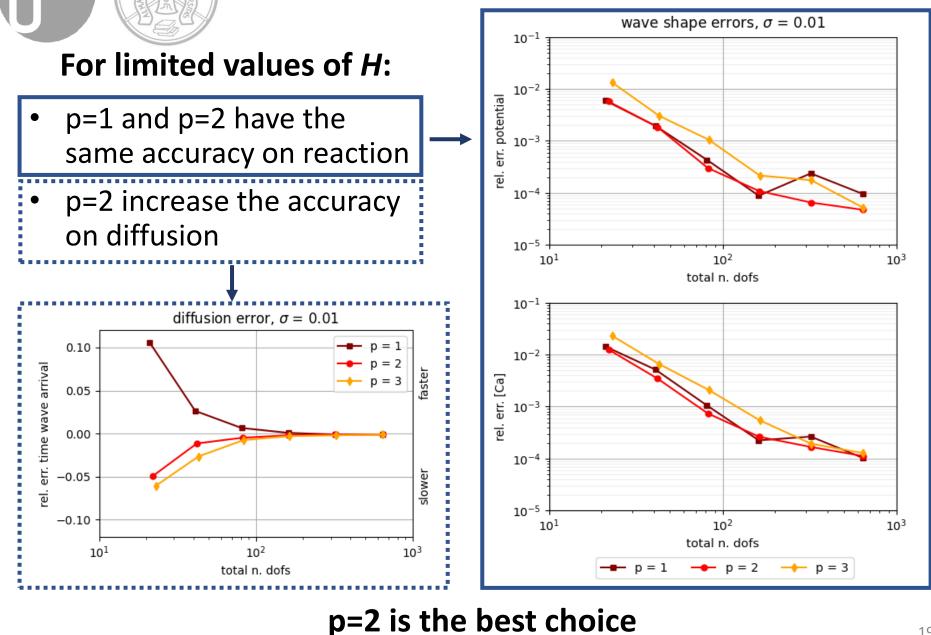


# **Comparison IGA-FEM on a cable (1) Adimensional equation:** $\frac{\partial v^*}{\partial t^*} = H \frac{\partial^2 v^*}{\partial x^{*2}} - I_{ion}^*$ $H = \frac{C_m V S}{A L^2} \sigma$





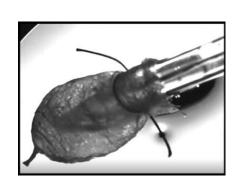
### Comparison IGA-FEM on a cable (2)

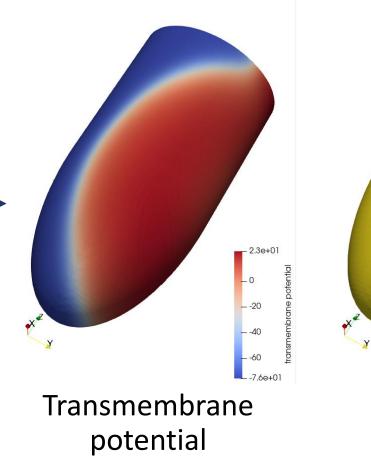


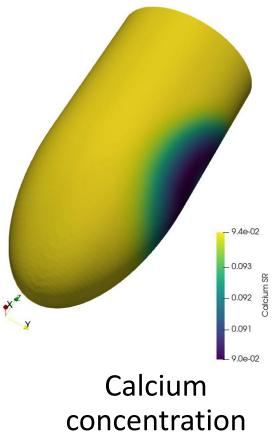
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#### **Computational framework for preclinical cardiology**





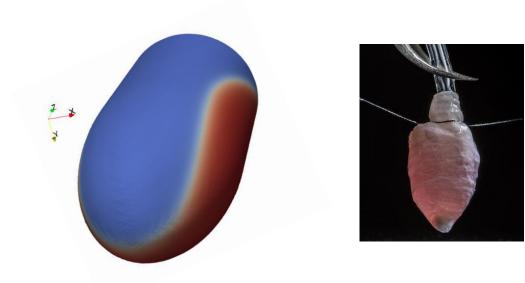


Thanks for your attention





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### FROM CARDIAC STEM CELL IONIC MODELS TO ISOGEOMETRIC SIMULATIONS OF 3D CARDIAC TISSUE

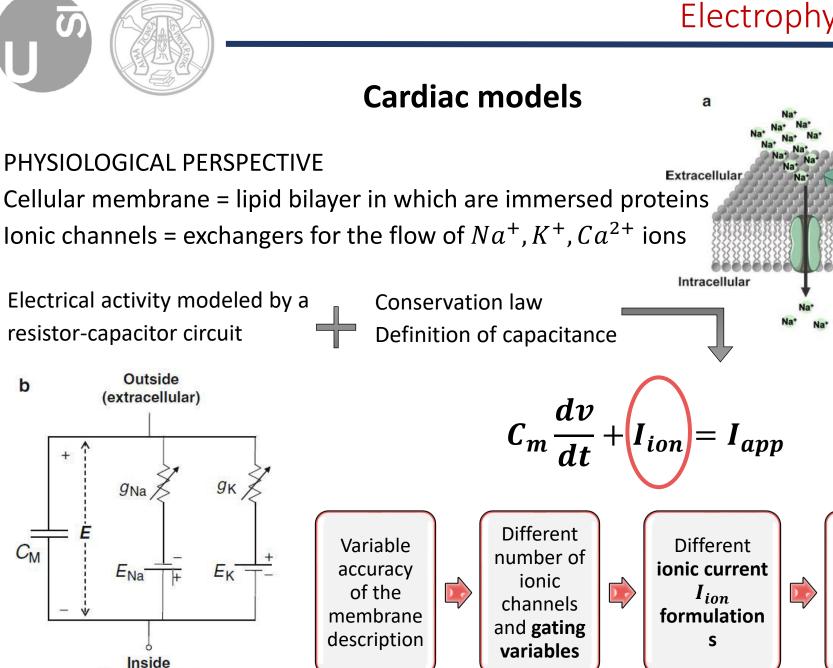
Sofia Botti

UNIPV-USI Ph.D. Program in Computational mathematics and decision sciences Supervisor: Prof Luca F. Pavarino

> Spring Workshop 2022 March 16-17

# Backup





(intracellular)

DIFFERENT

CARDIAC

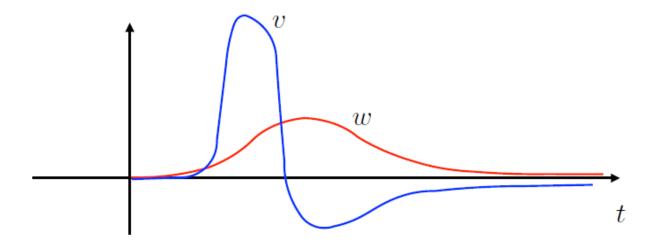
MODELS



Ionic membrane models

### **Models formalism**

Generation	Representative model	Gating variables number	Equations number
Phenomenological approach	FitzHugh-Nagumo (1955)	1	2

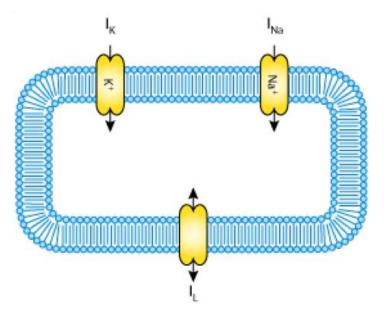




Ionic membrane models

### **Models formalism**

Generation	Representative model	Gating variables number	Equations number
Phenomenological approach	FitzHugh-Nagumo (1955)	1	2
First Generation models	Hodgkin-Huxley (1952)	3	4

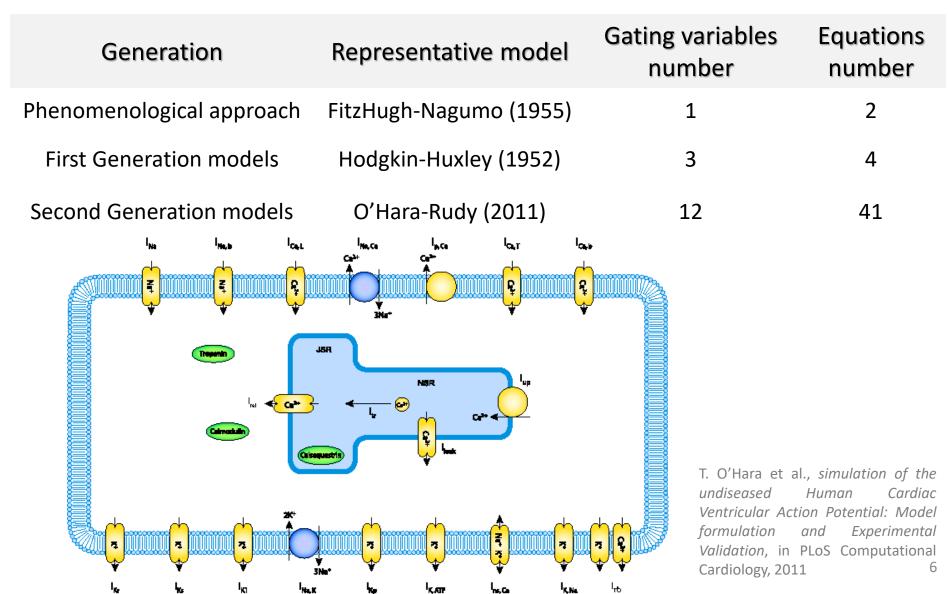


A.L. Hodgkin, A. F. Huxley, A quantitative description of the membrane current and its application to conduction and excitation in nerve, in The Journal of Physiology, 1952





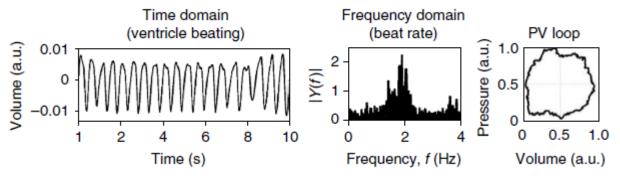
### **Models formalism**



Outlook

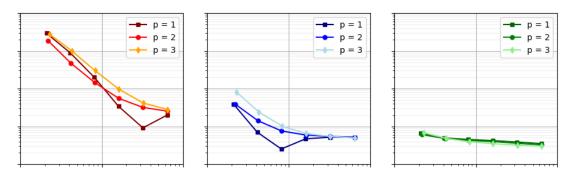


• Coupled electro-mechanical simulations



MacQueen et al., Nat. Bio. Eng., 2, 930, (2018)

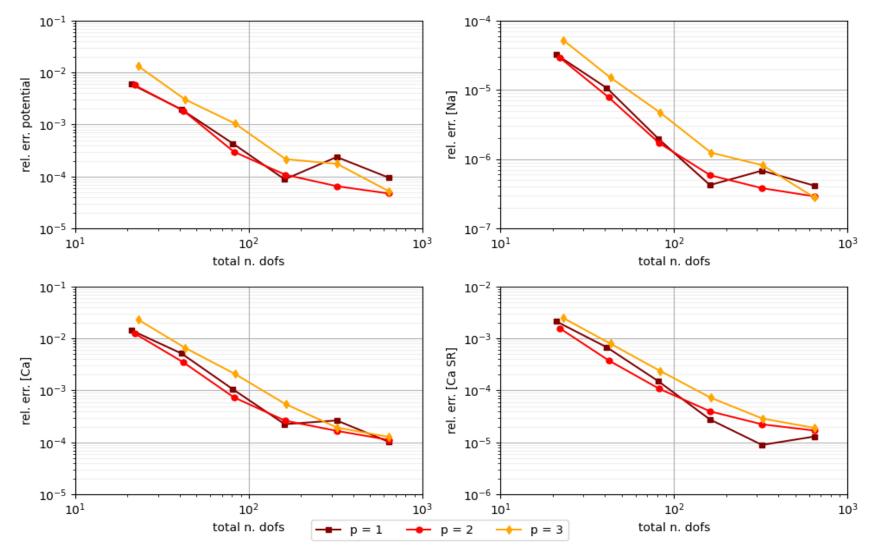
• Further investigations on  $H(\sigma)$ 





#### Error on concentrations

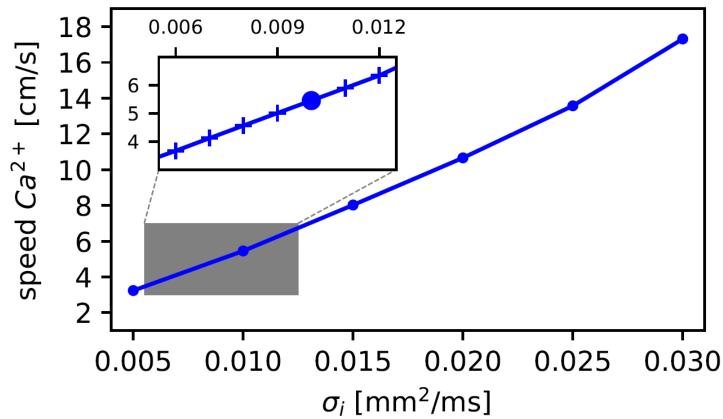
wave shape errors,  $\sigma = 0.01$ 

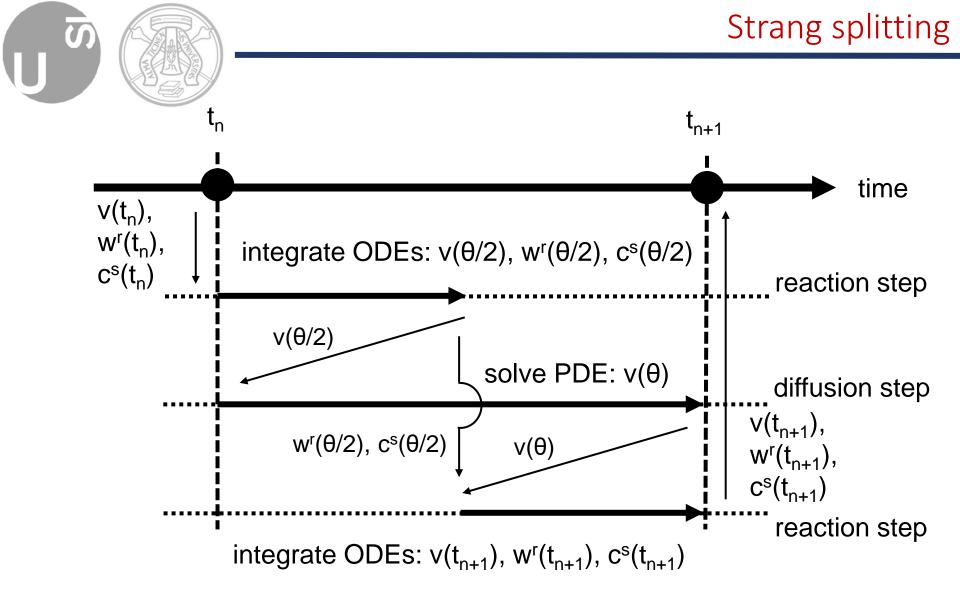


Conduction velocity



### simulated conduction velocity



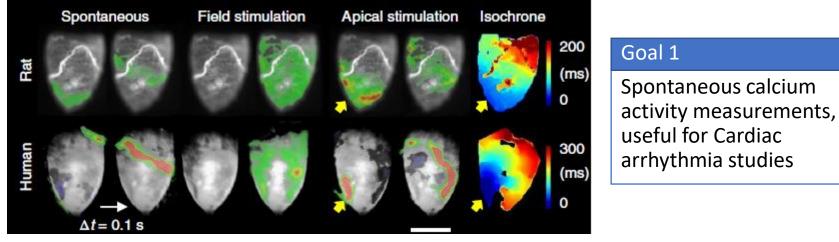




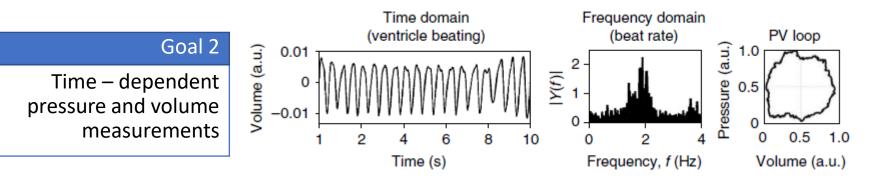
hiPSC-CMs in-vitro ventricle

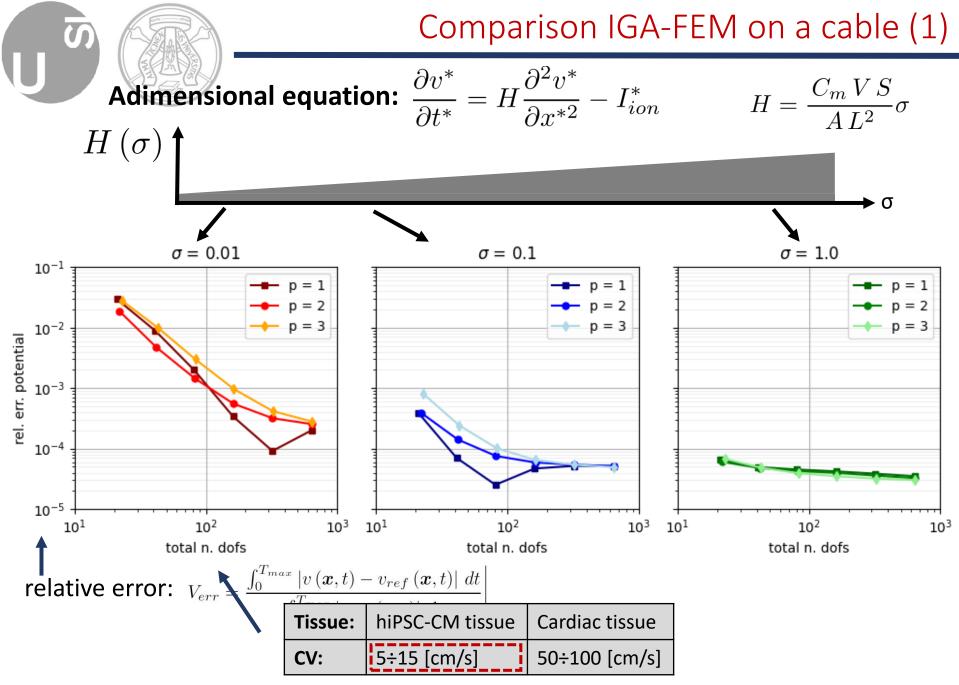
### **Engineered heart tissue**

Three-dimensional, muscle strips, that can be generated from isolated heart cells or hiPSC-CMs



MacQueen et al., Nat. Bio. Eng., 2, 930, (2018)

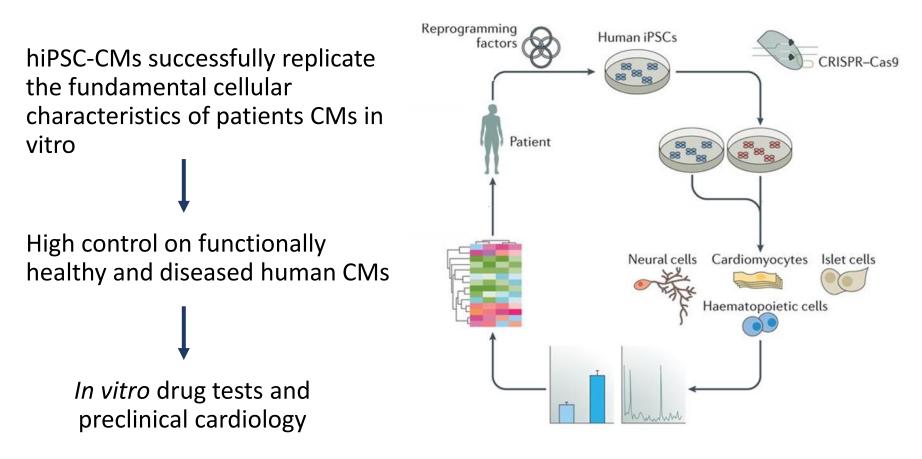






## **HIPSC derived Cardiomyocytes**

#### Spontaneous beating cardiomyocytes





# Ionic model for Atrial-like hiPSC-CMs

**I step:** Parameters update of the best Ventricular model, Paci 2020, using the same scaling of Paci 2013, considering virtual basic fitting parameters of mixed phenotypes

