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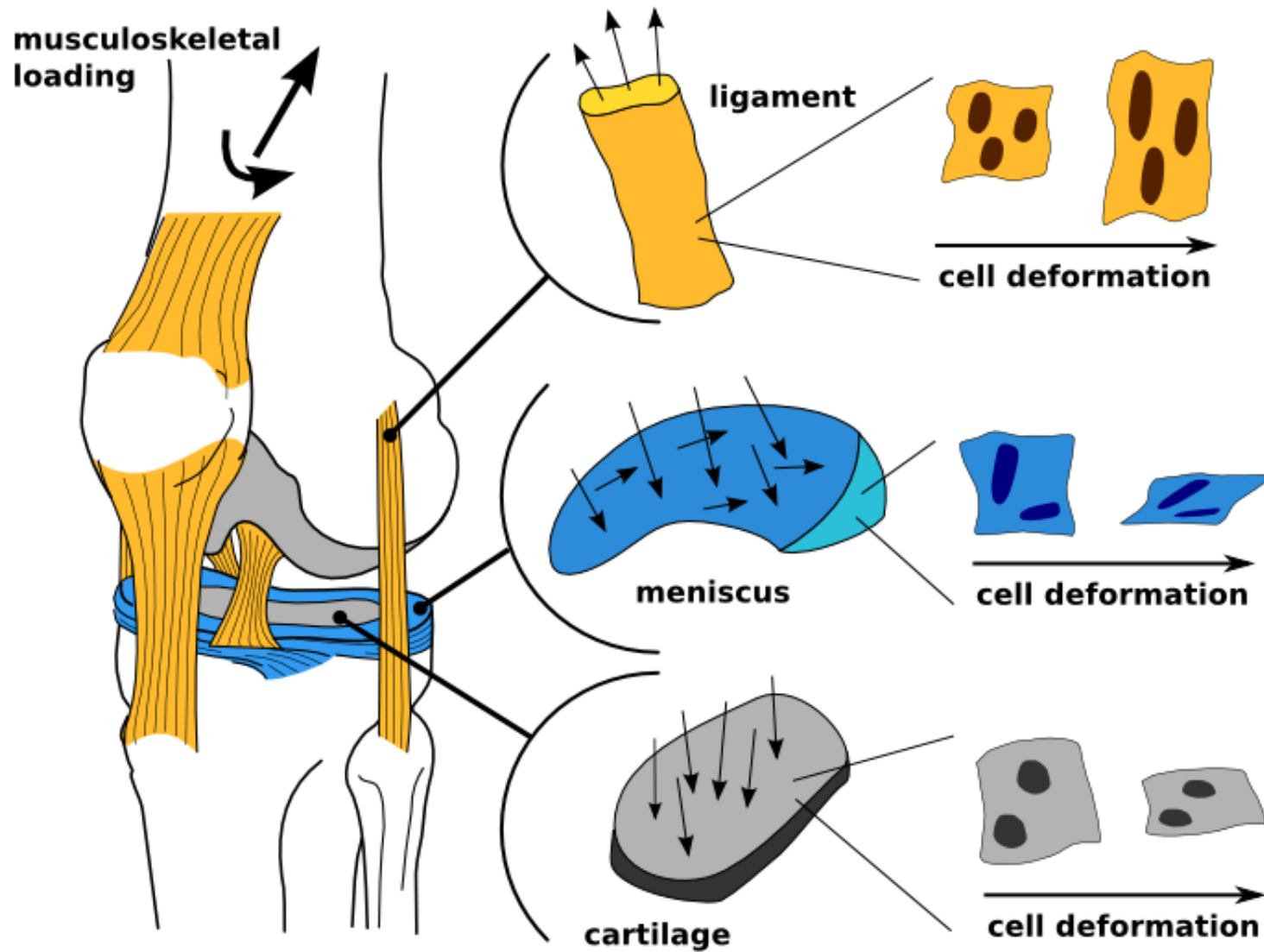
Predicting Cell Deformation from Body Level Mechanical Loads

PI: Erdemir

NIBIB/NIBIB, R01EB009643

<https://simtk.org/home/j2c>





Cell deformations are dictated by **body level loads** transferred to cells through complex joint anatomy, tissue structure and extracellular and cellular interactions



Why multiscale coupling?

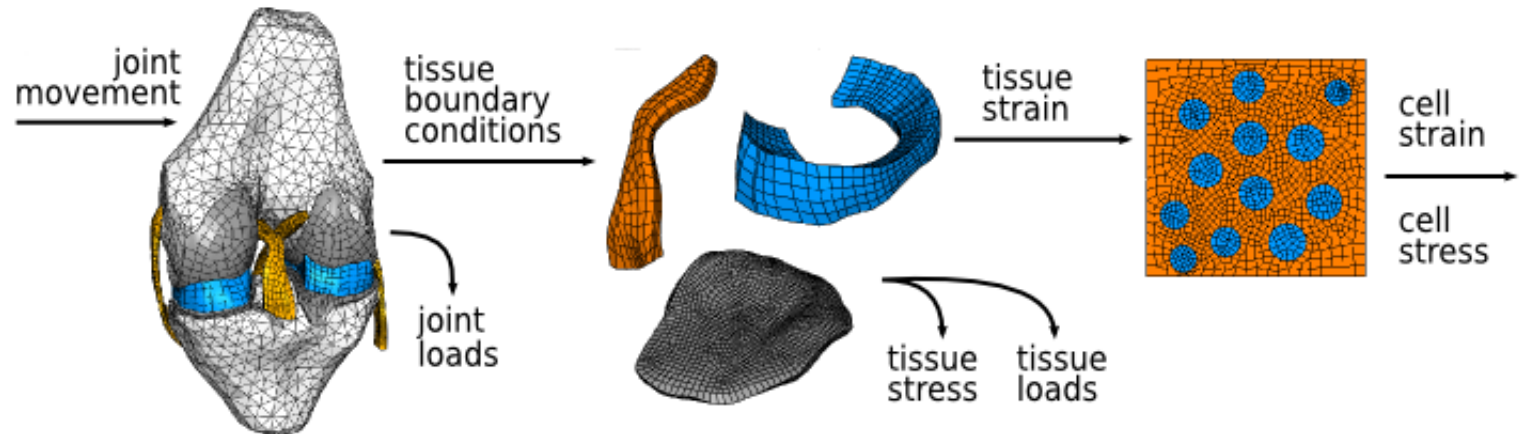
to establish the relationship between mechanical variables at the joint level and those at microscopic levels triggering cellular processes

Imagine

identifying potentially harmful movements/loads that can cause cell damage
traumatic wounds
ulcer formation (pressure or diabetic)
osteoarthritis

establishing the mechanical link between body loads and biological cell processes
bone loss in space
tissue degradation due to immobilization
adaptation and tissue growth

Autonomous Simulations



Post process

Simple joint models for joint movement/loads

FEA of joints (macro level) with continuum tissue models for tissue strain/stress

FEA of cell and extracellular matrix (micro level) for cell strain/stress

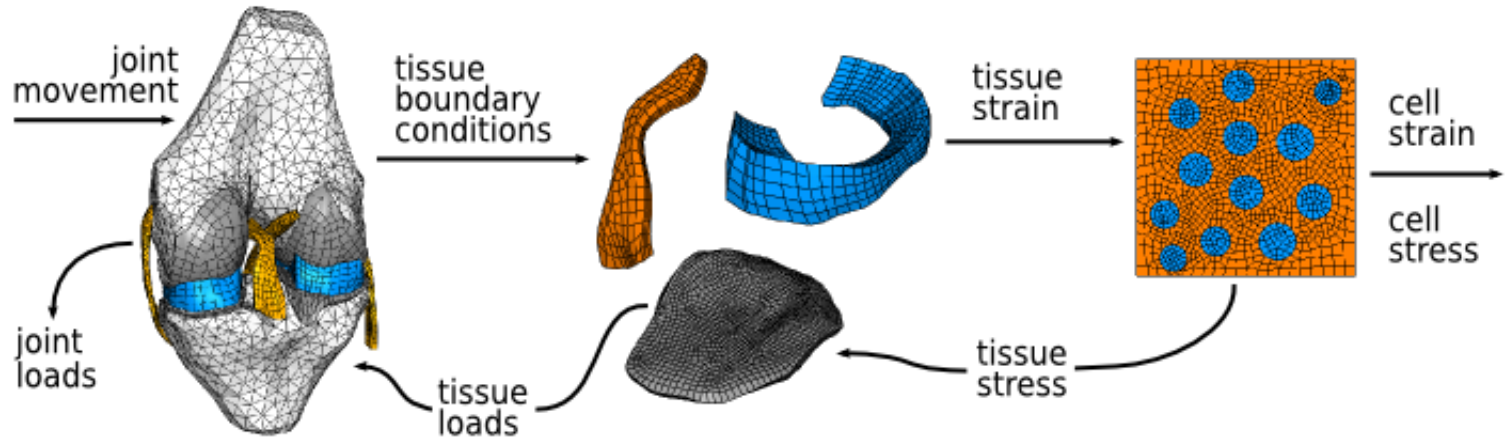
straight forward
cost effective
descriptive

but

macro models should be mechanically consistent
with micro models

limited potential to explore predictive macro-micro
level interactions (no feedback from micro levels)

Concurrent Simulations



Given joint movement/loads nested simulations of

anatomically detailed joint models and

microscopic models of cell and extracellular matrix

provide cell deformations

response of macro level is a direct function of microscopic models

full functionality to explore bidirectional dependencies between spatial levels

but

high computational cost

&

need for reliable micro level models



Potential Pathways for Accurate & Cost Effective

Autonomous Simulations

Continuum models of tissue representative of underlying microstructure

A-priori simulations with microstructural models for surrogate modeling

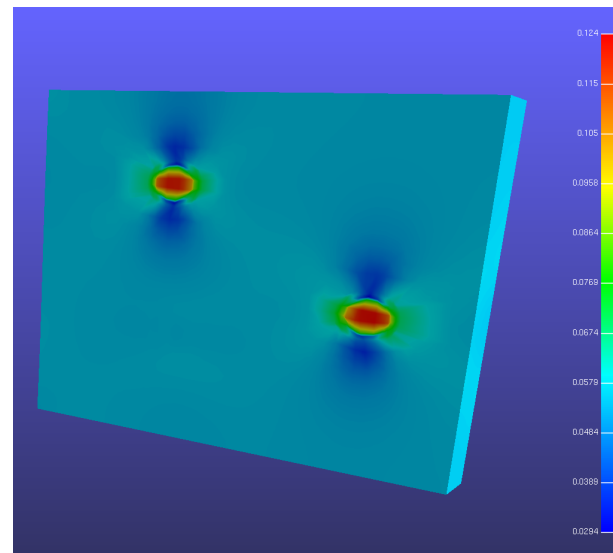
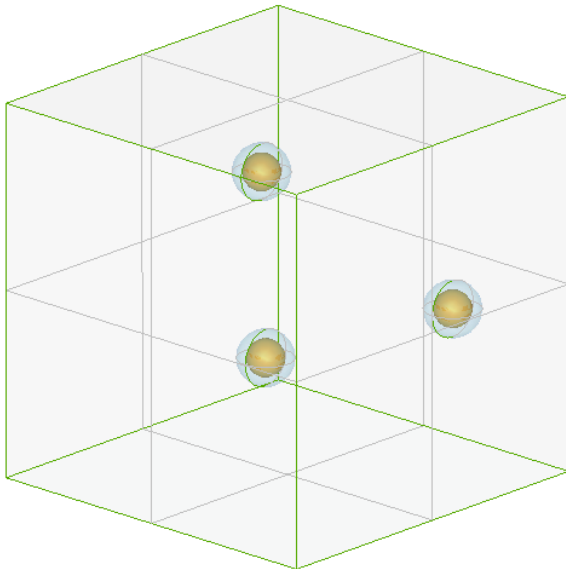
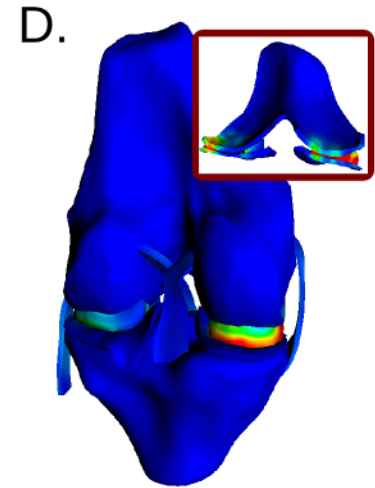
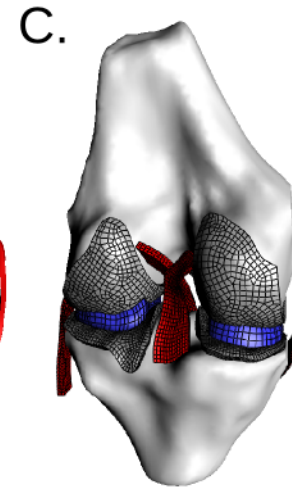
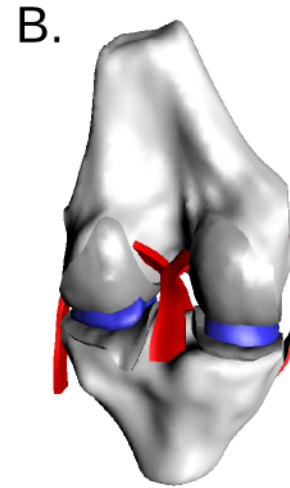
Concurrent Simulations

Computational homogenization

Adaptive surrogate modeling

joint level modeling

- A. MRI
- B. geometric reconstruction
- C. mesh generation
- D. finite element analysis



cell level modeling

representation of
cell distribution
cell size
cell and EM properties

Efficient Methods for Multidomain Biomechanical Simulations

PI: van den Bogert

NIBIB/NIH, R01EB006735

<https://simtk.org/home/multidomain>

Design Criteria for Therapeutic Footwear in Diabetes

PI: Cavanagh

NICHD/NIH, R01HD037433

[List of publications by Ahmet Erdemir at PubMed](#)



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