Genomic Data-Guided Mathematical Modeling of Cancer

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Introduction

- **Cancer**: The uncontrolled growth of abnormal cells in the body.
- It is the second leading cause of deaths in the US.
- In 2014, 2,626,418 deaths were recorded and 22.5 % of these deaths can be attributed to cancer.
- Intra-tumor heterogeneity causes:
 - 1. Spatial restrictions
 - 2. Composition restrictions
- Diagnoses depend heavily on biopsies, which may/may not accurately reflect the tumor as a whole.



Models Used

Based on model and method from Waclaw (2016)





В

- A. Tumor composed of discrete microlesions. The microlesions:
 - 1. Increase in size
 - 2. Seed other microlesions
- B. Surface Growth. Only a layer on the surface of the cell replicates radially outward.

 \mathbf{C}

C. Volumetric Growth. Every cell replicates and pushes outward.

Formulas Used

General Formula:

- $V_{tot}(t)$ Total volume of the tumor $V_{tot}(t) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \int_{0}^{\infty} f_{n}(a, t) V_{n}(a) da,$
- n(t) Average number of drivers per cell

$$\langle n(t) \rangle = \frac{1}{V_{\text{tot}}(t)} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} n \int_0^{\infty} f_n(a, t) V_n(a) da.$$

In the case of single-driver surface growth,

$$V_{tot}(t) = \frac{1}{3M}e^{Gt} + \frac{2}{3M}e^{\frac{-Gt}{2}}\cos\left(\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}Gt\right) - \frac{1}{M},$$

Where:

- $f_n(a,t)$: The expected number of microlesions of age a at time t
- $V_n(a)$: Total volume of a microlesion of type *n* at age a
- G: Asymptotic growth rate
- M: Migration Probability

Results Produced



Figure 1. Using the single driver-surface growth method.
Figure 1 is a plot of the relationship between volume and time when velocities vary and migration probability is constant.
Figure 2. Using the single driver-surface growth method.
Figure 2 is a plot of the relationship between volume and time when velocities vary and migration probability is constant.

Results Produced



Figure 3. Using the single driver-slow-down surface growth method. Figure 3 is a plot of the relationship between volume and time with constant migration probability, constant velocity, and varying time scales of growth decrease.

Work in Progress



- Total volume and fraction of cells with *n* drivers in the case of surface growth.
- Colored lines represent subpopulations of cells within a tumor with *n* number of mutations.

Future Plan

- Research on cancer growth is limited to 2D.
- 3D models of tumors, today, do not accurately represent the true nature of the tumor.





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