



2nd Conference on Nonlinearity

# How far we are from insilico clinical trials for cardiovascular disease?

22nd October, 2021

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**University of Kragujevac, Serbia**



*This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No 777204*

# SILICOFCM

SILICOFCM aims to develop a computational platform for *in silico* clinical trials of Familial cardiomyopathies (FCMs) that would take into consideration comprehensive list of patient specific features (genetic, biological, pharmacologic, clinical, imaging and patient specific cellular aspects) capable of **optimizing and testing medical treatment strategy** with the purpose of **maximizing positive therapeutic outcome**, avoiding adverse effects, avoiding drug interactions, preventing sudden cardiac death, shortening time between the drug treatment commencement and the desired result.

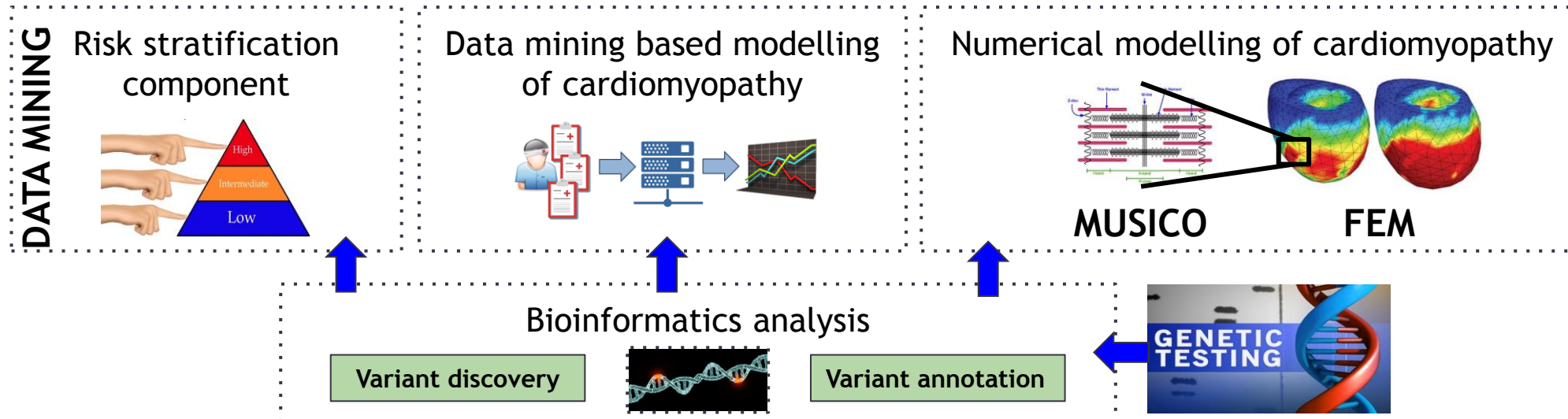
SILICOFCM is a multi-modular, innovative *in silico* clinical trials solution for the **design and functional optimization of whole heart performance and monitoring effectiveness of pharmacological treatment**, with aim to reduce the animal studies and the human clinical trials.

The SILICOFCM platform is based on the **integrated multidisciplinary and multiscale methods** for analysis of patient-specific data and development of patient-specific models for monitoring and assessment of patient condition from current through the progression of disease.



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# The main vision of SILICOFCM project

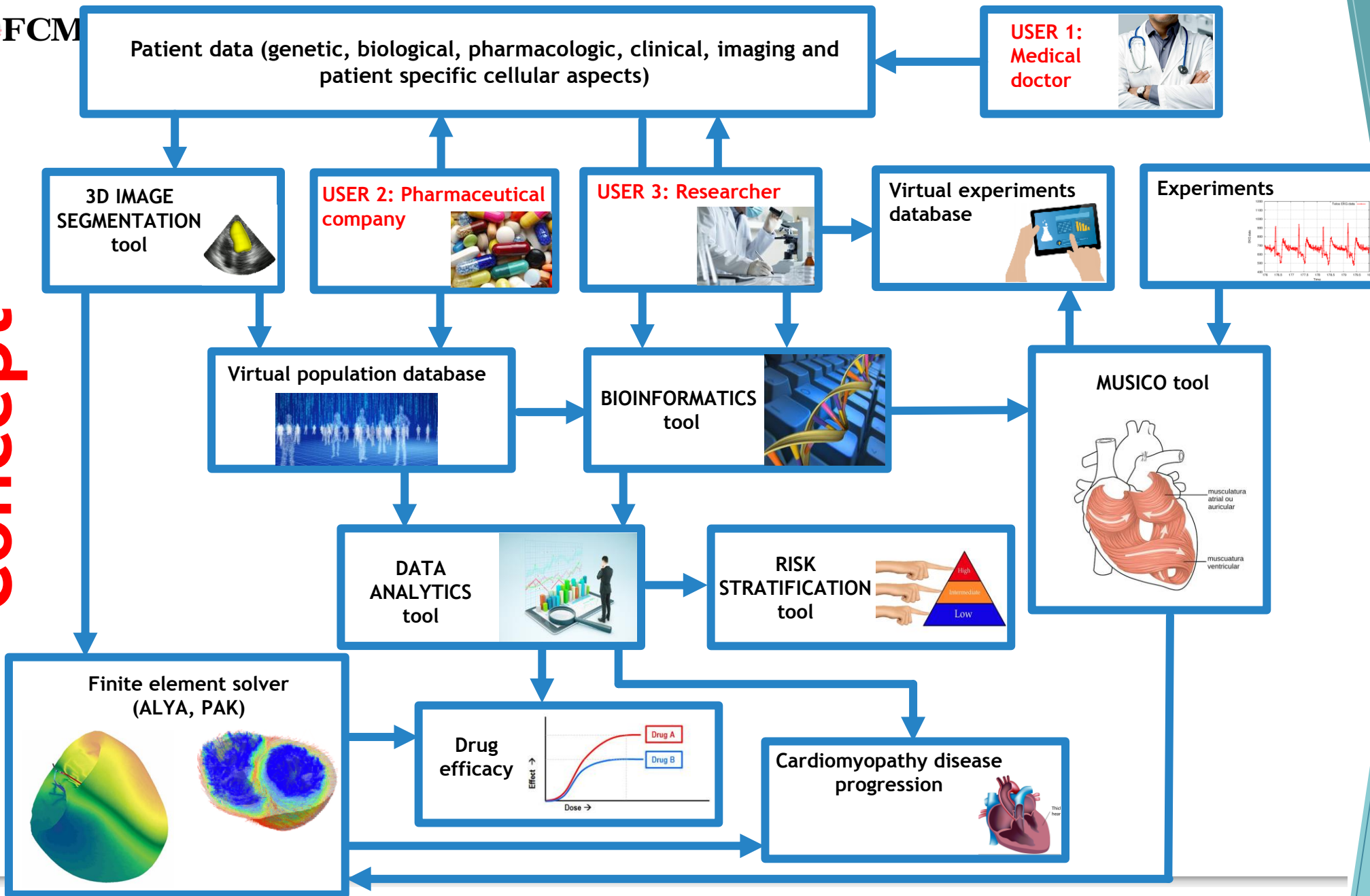


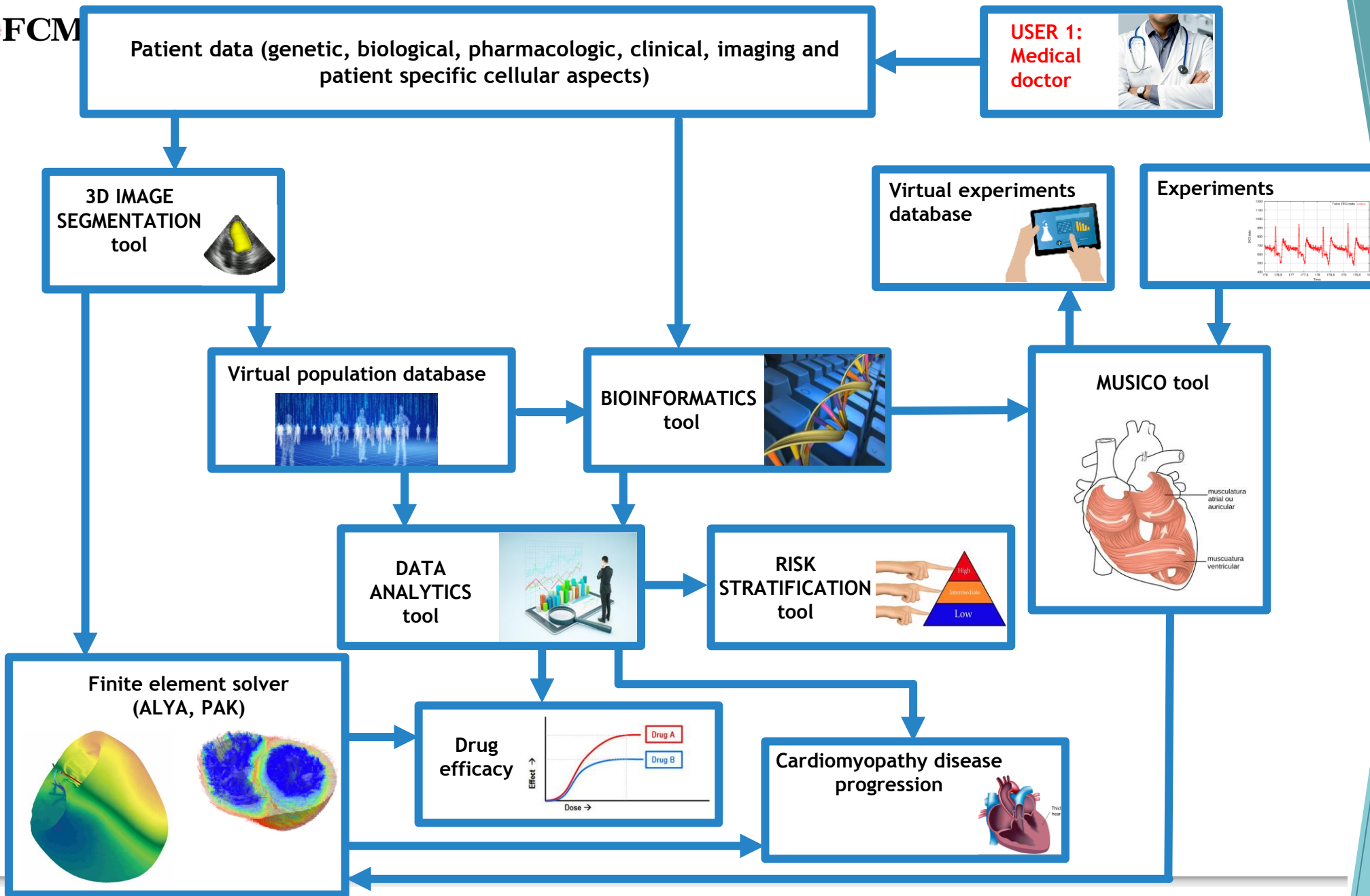
# Partners

- ▶ BIOIRC - Bioengineering Research and Development Center (RS)
- ▶ IIT - Illinois Institute of Technology (US)
- ▶ UNIKENT - University of Kent (UK)
- ▶ UNEW - University of Newcastle Upon Tyne (UK)
- ▶ UNIFI - University of Florence (IT)
- ▶ ICVDV - Institute of Cardiovascular Diseases Vojvodina (RS)
- ▶ UOI - University of Ioannina (EL)
- ▶ BSC - Barcelona Supercomputing Center (ES)
- ▶ UL - University of Ljubljana (SL)
- ▶ R-TECH - Steinbeis Advanced Risk Technologies (DE)
- ▶ UW - University of Washington (US)
- ▶ SBG - Seven Bridges Genomics INC (US)
- ▶ FMBG - Faculty of Medicine, University Of Belgrade (RS)

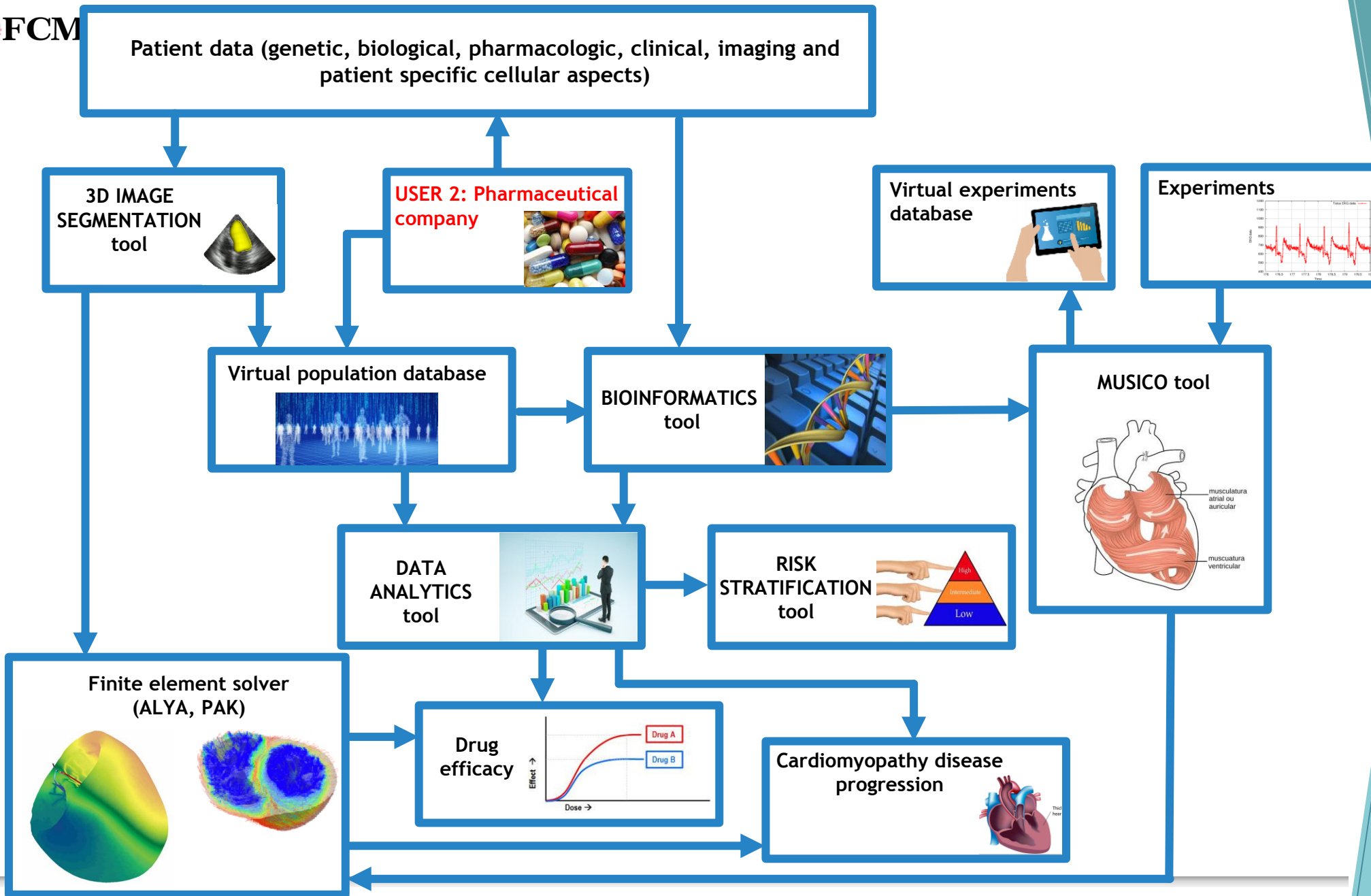
# IMPACT

- Reducing the size and the duration of the human clinical trials
- A more effective human clinical trials design
- Leading to a significant reduction in animal testing
- Innovative medical products on the market with lower development costs and/or shorter time-to-market
- Improving prediction of human risks for new biomedical products
- Setting standards for *in silico* trials
- Providing libraries of virtual patients for re-use in pre- and post-competitive testing of biomedical products



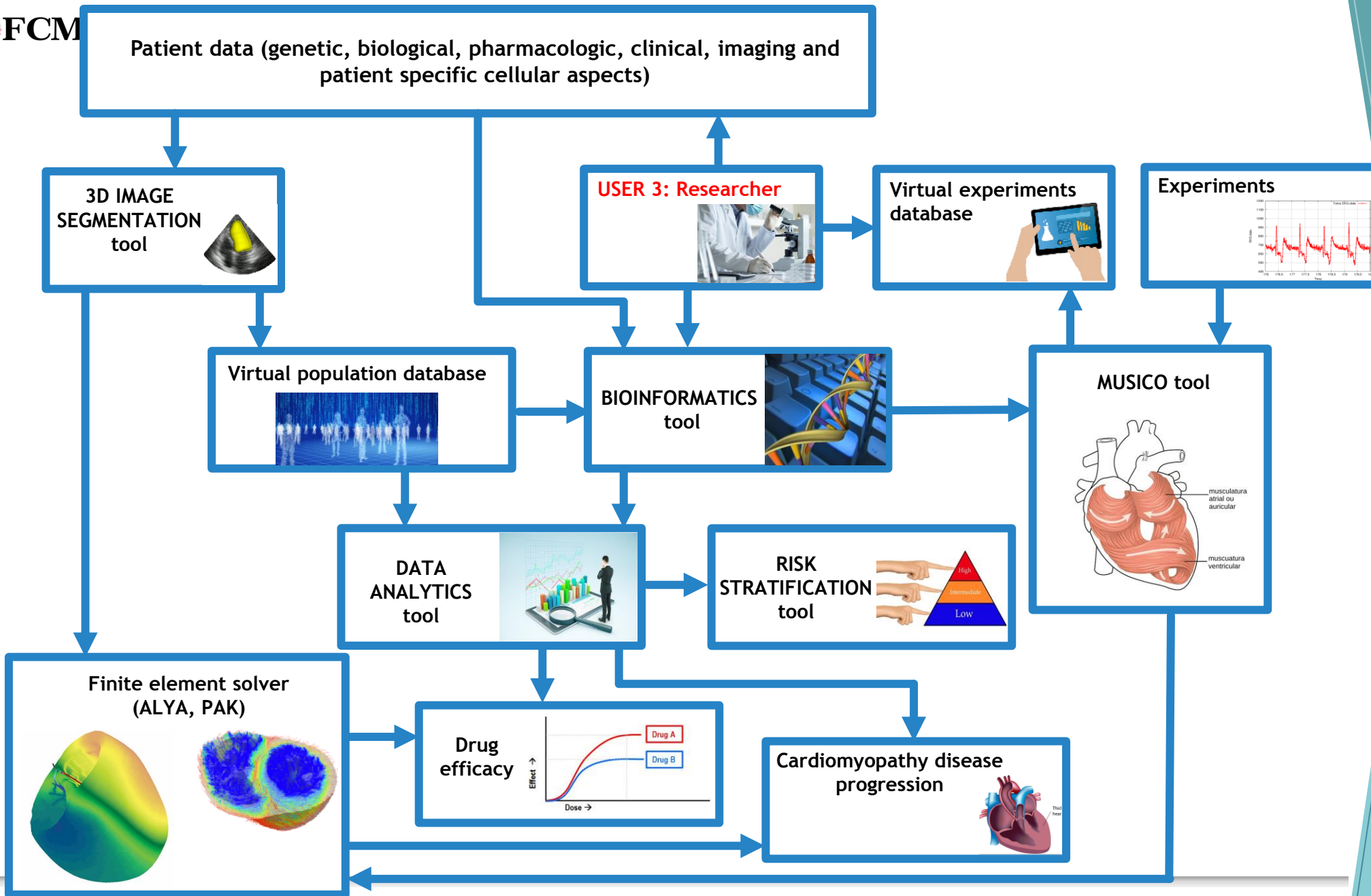






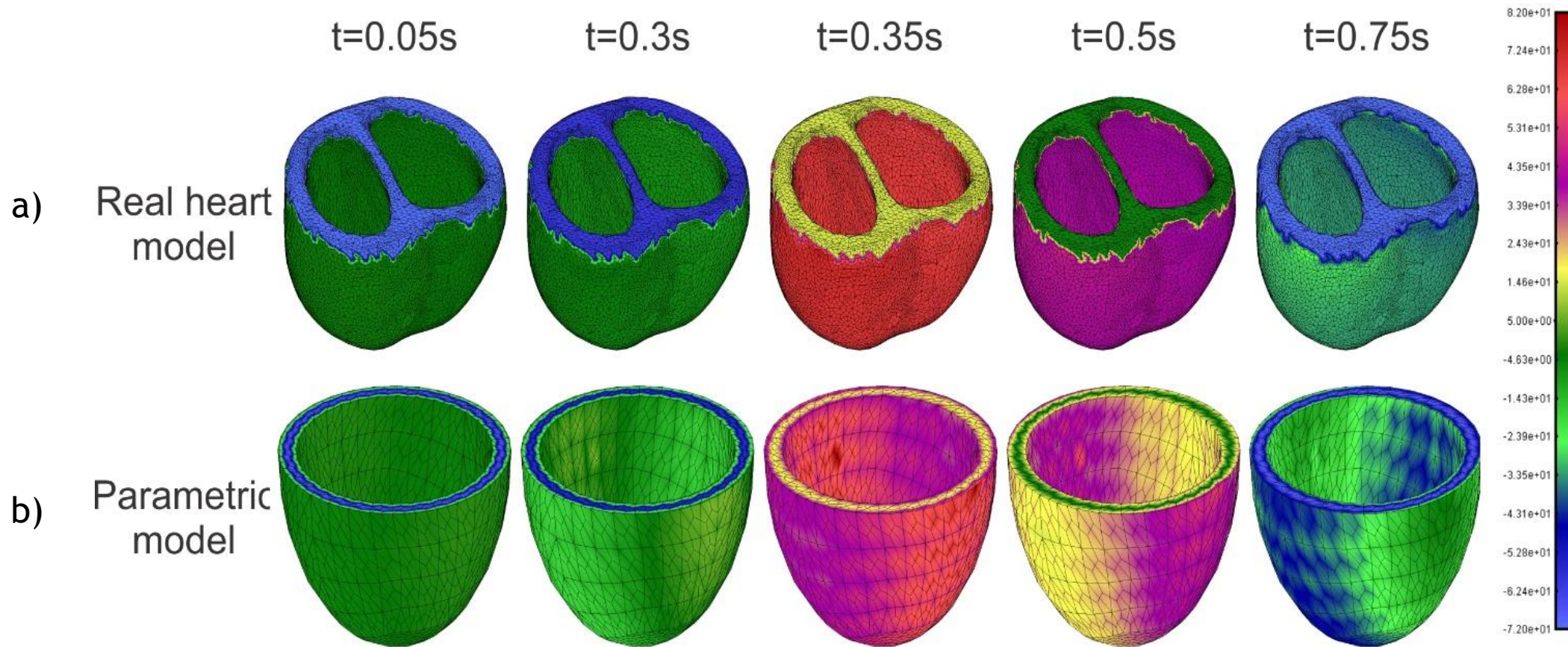


# USE CASE 3



# PAK module

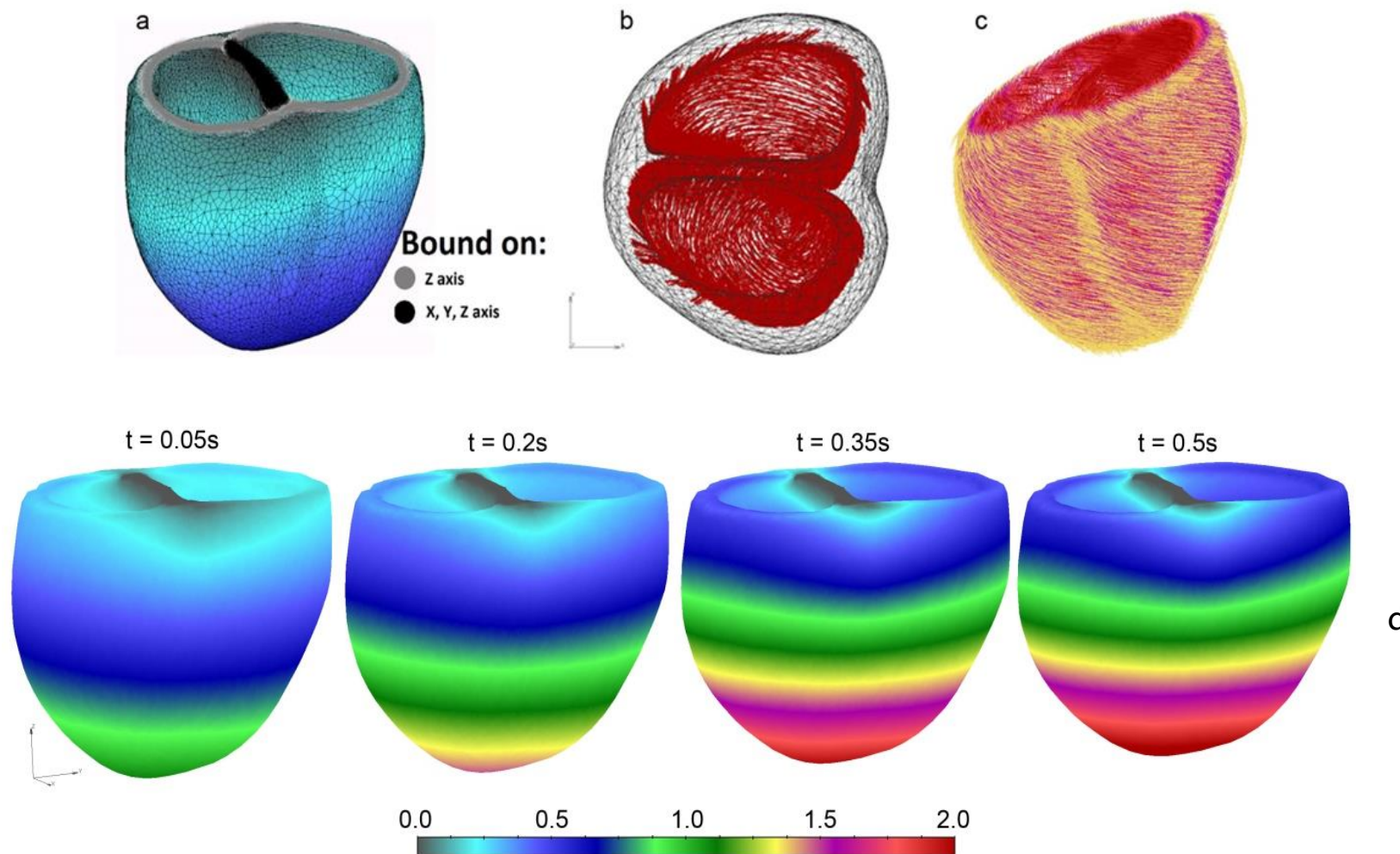
- Example: Realistic models for electrical field and electromechanical coupling



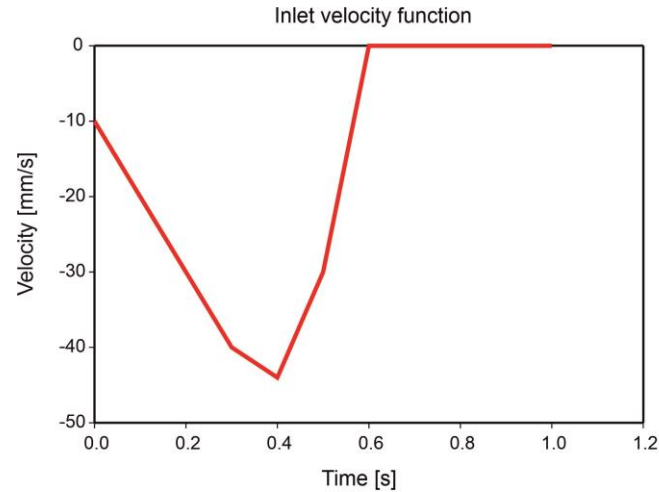
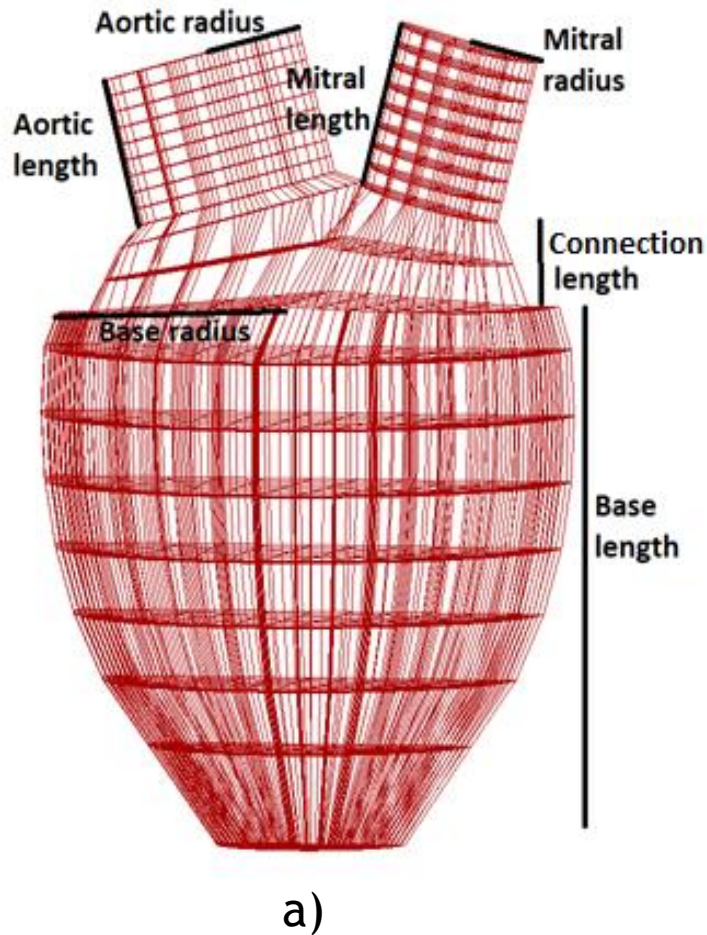


# PAK module

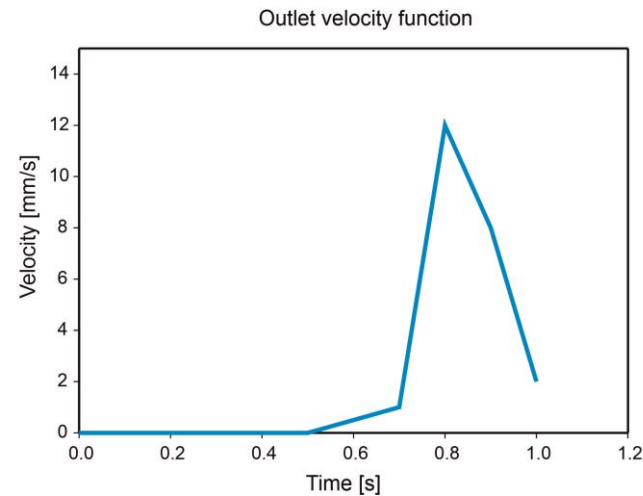
- Example: Realistic models for electrical field and electromechanical coupling



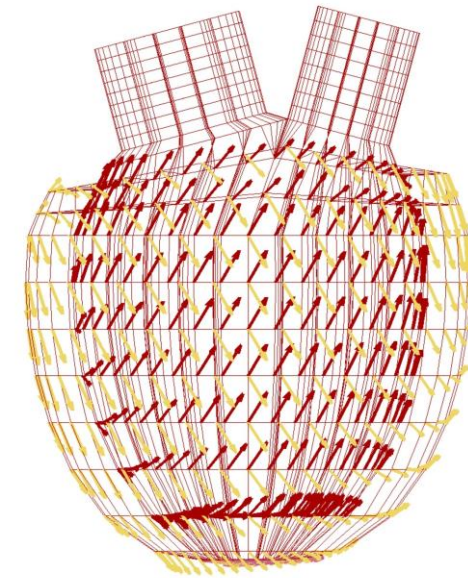
► Example: Parametric structural model of Left ventricle



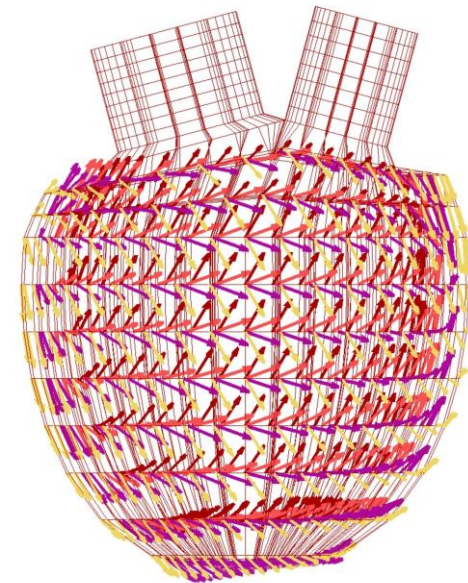
b)



c)



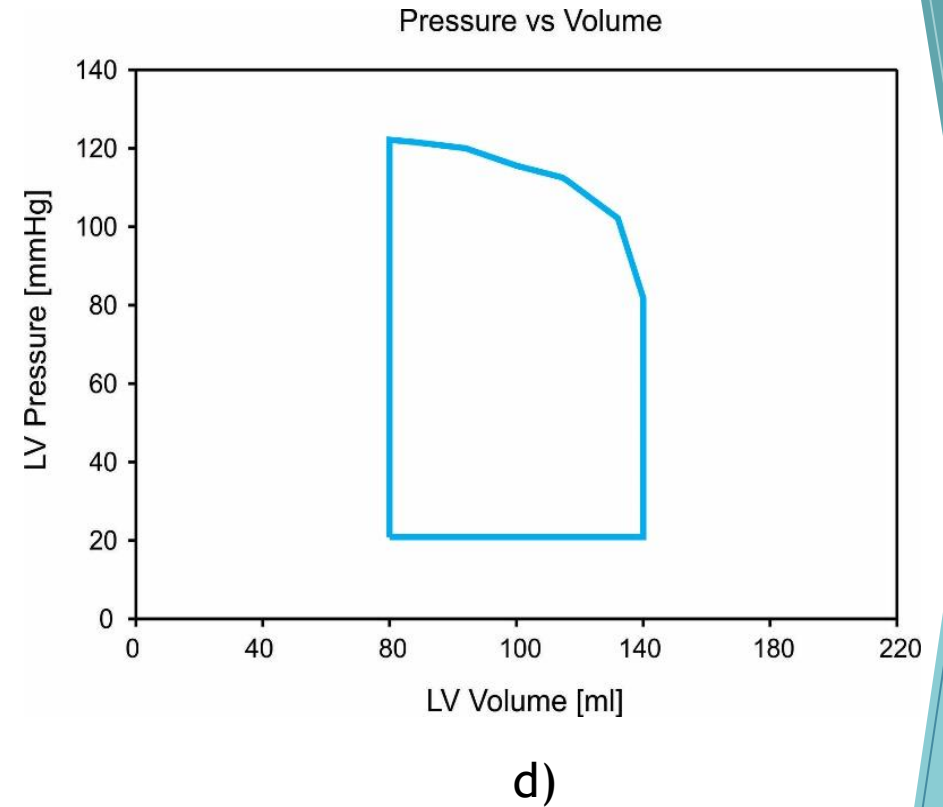
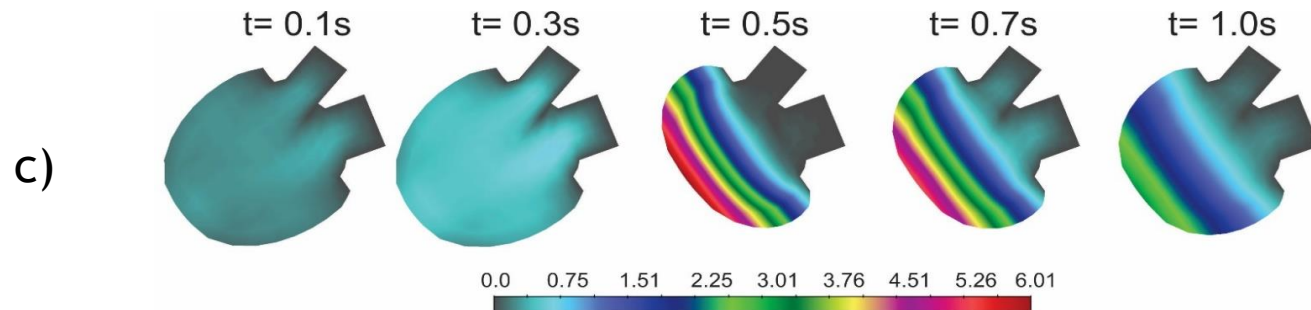
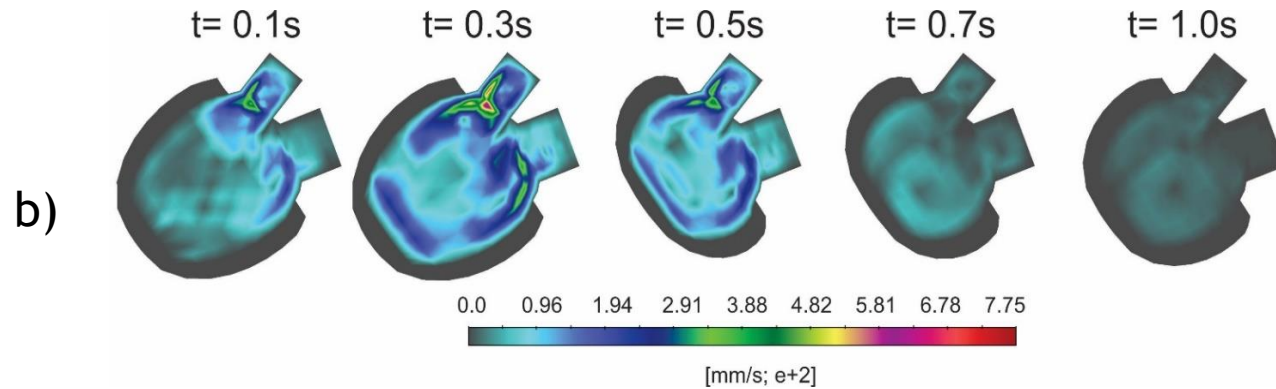
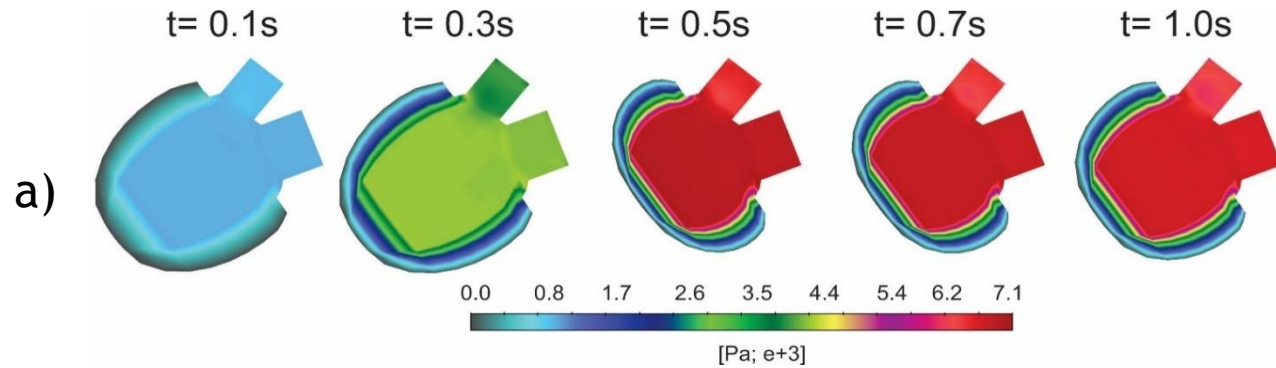
d)



e)

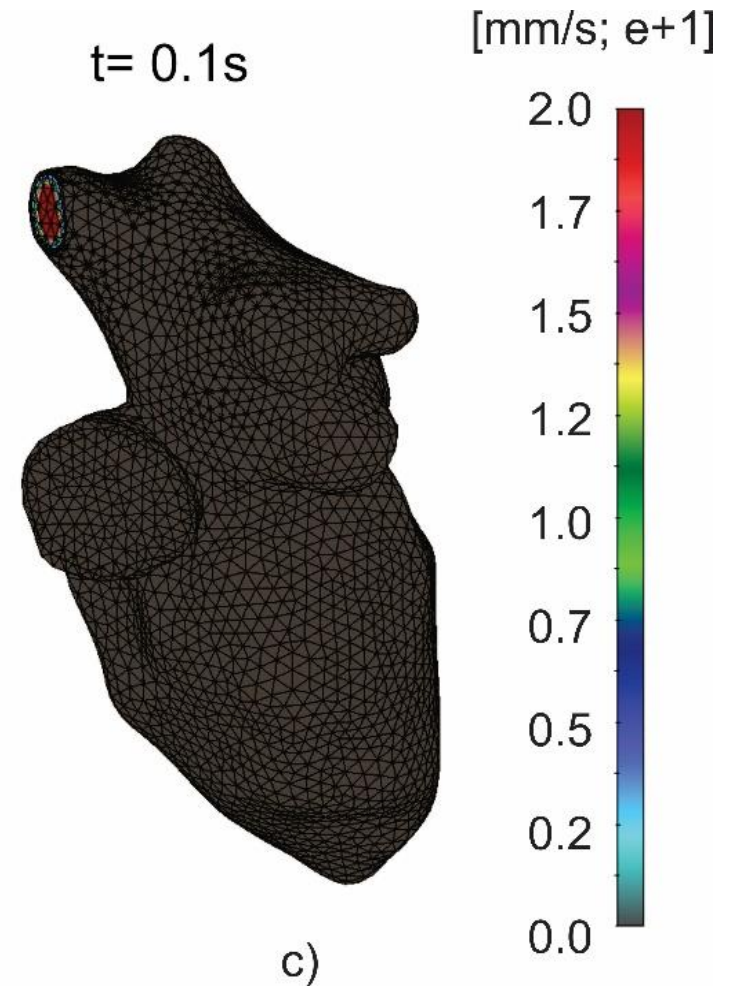
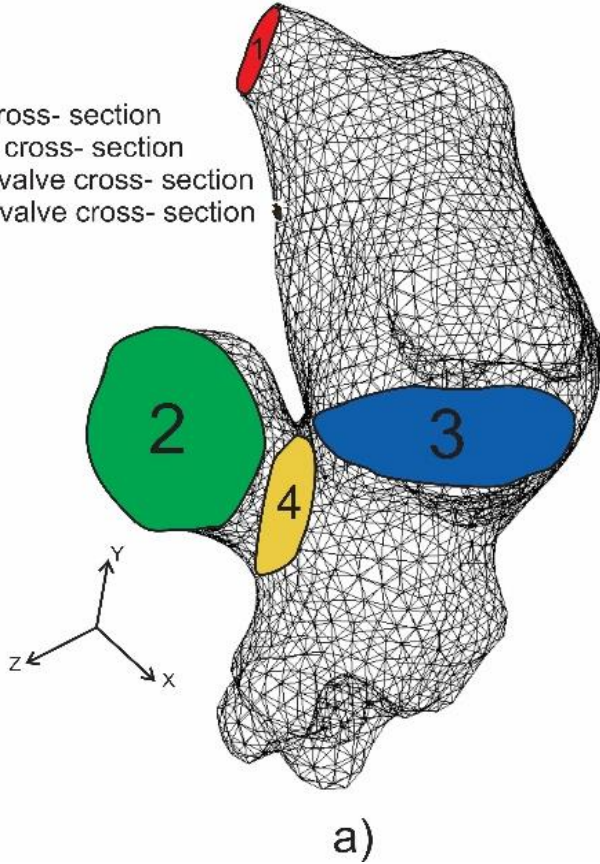


## ► Example: Parametric structural model of Left ventricle

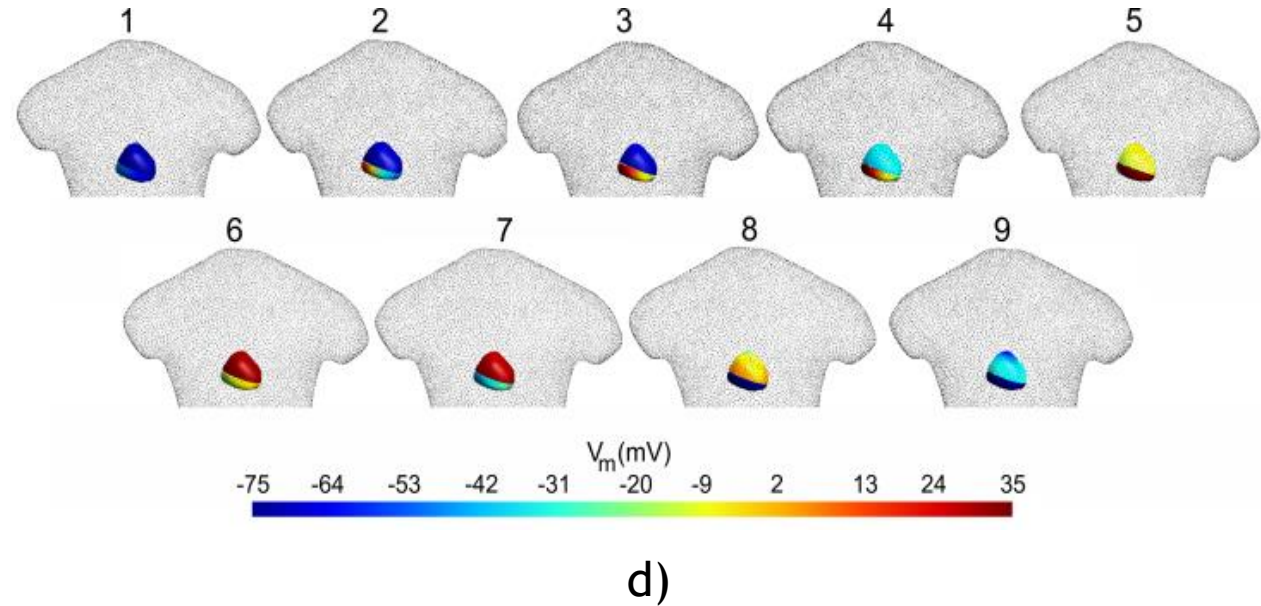
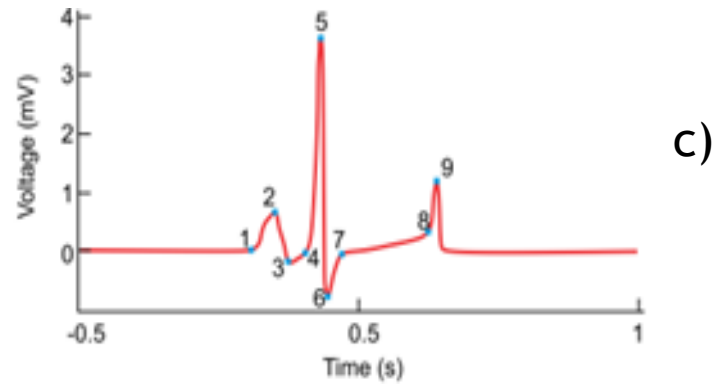
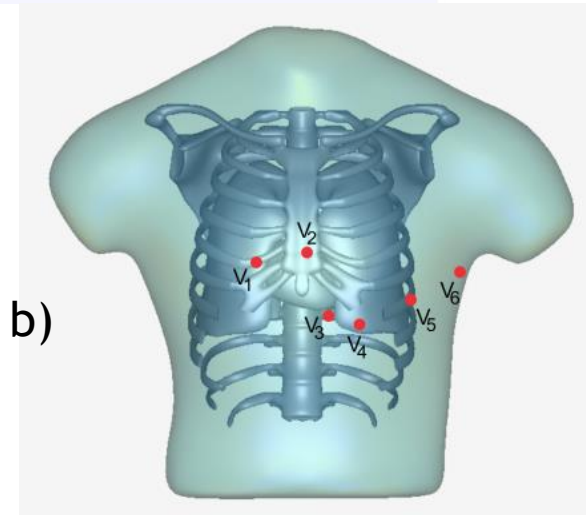
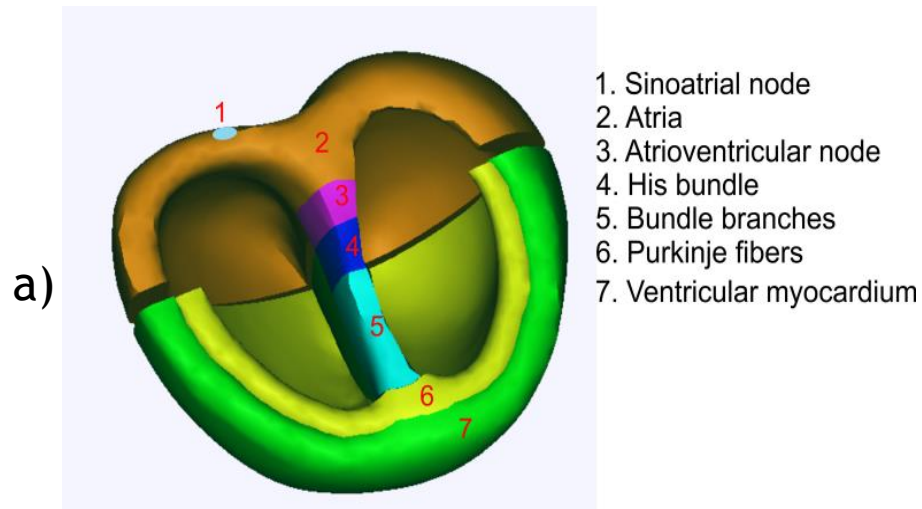


► Example: Realistic heart model

- 1- Inlet cross- section
- 2- Outlet cross- section
- 3- Mitral valve cross- section
- 4- Aortic valve cross- section



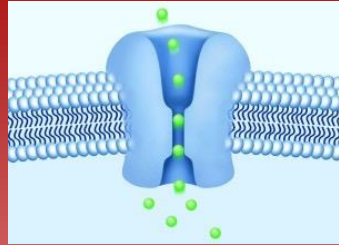
► Example: Torso model



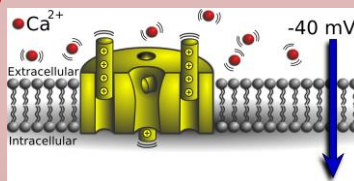


# The Heart Physiology as an Electro-Mechanic System

## Electrophysiology

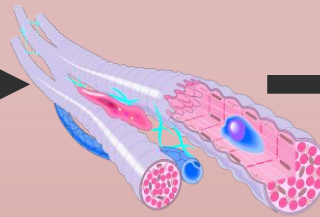


ion channels

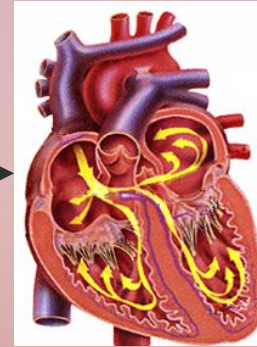
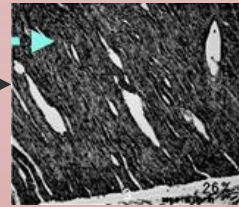


Ca<sup>2+</sup> ion channels

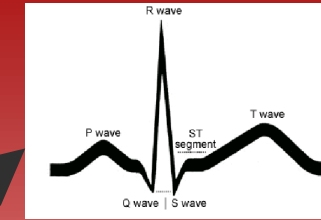
whole cell



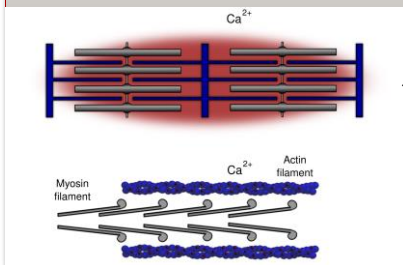
myocardium



ventricles

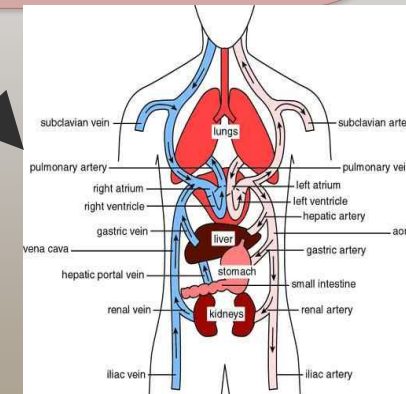


electrocardiogram



sarcomere

## Biomechanics



circulation

# Fluid-Electro-Mechanic Cardiac Model - The Heart as a Multi-Physics Coupled System



Electrical  
Propagation

Volume

Mechanical  
Deformation

Large deformations + non-linear,  
orthotropic material models:  
Holzapfel and Ogden 2009

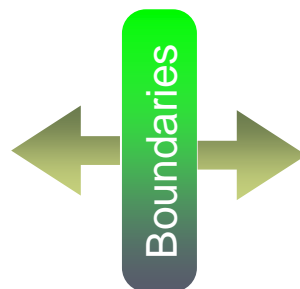
Electrophysiology:

Linear anisotropic (fibers) diffusion + non-linear source terms

Rogers-McCulloch, O'Hara-Rudy, Ten Tusscher-Panfilov, Fenton-Karma,...

Electro-mechanical coupling, via  $\text{Ca}^{+}$  transient:

Hunter & McCulloch 1998, Land-Niederer 2017, Rice-Winslow 2006



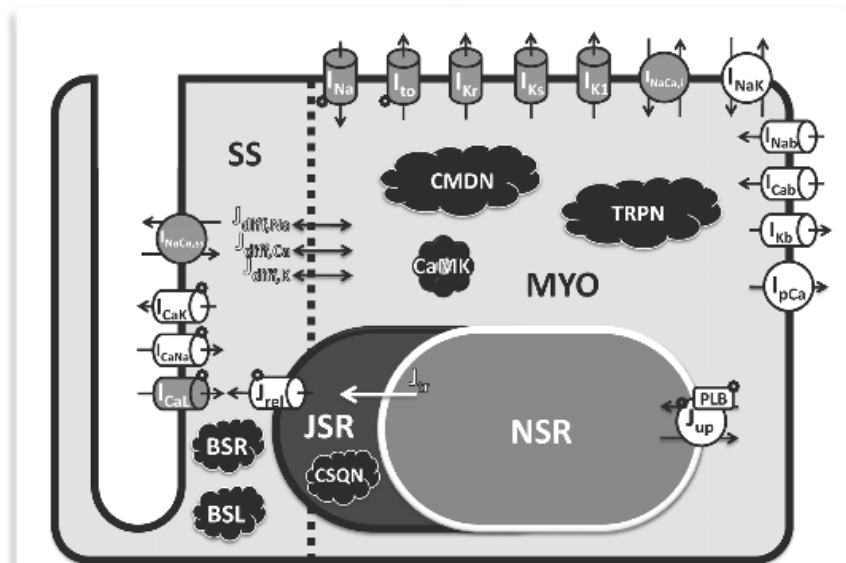
Blood  
Flow

ALE + Immersed  
Boundaries

Navier -Stokes for  
Incompressible Flow

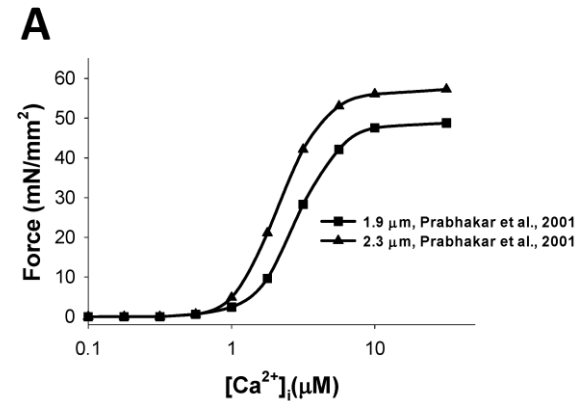
*Ion: Human EP model*

O'Hara- Rudy 2011



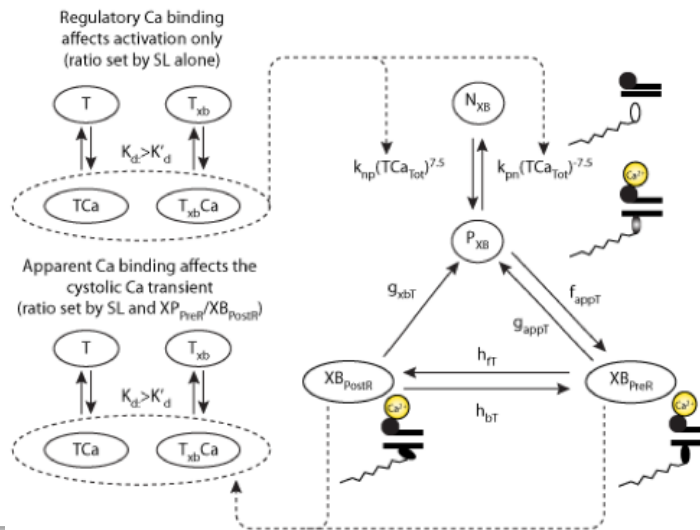
**Figure 5. Schematic diagram of human ventricular myocyte model.** Formulations for all currents and fluxes were based either directly (gray) or indirectly (white) on unidiseased or nonfailing human experimental data. Model includes four compartments: 1) bulk myoplasm (myo), 2) junctional sarcoplasmic reticulum (JSR), 3) network sarcoplasmic reticulum (NSR), and 4) subspace (SS), representing the space near the T-tubules. Currents into the myoplasm: Na<sup>+</sup> current ( $I_{Na}$ ) representing both fast and late components, transient outward K<sup>+</sup> current ( $I_{to}$ ), rapid delayed rectifier K<sup>+</sup> current ( $I_{Kr}$ ), slow delayed rectifier K<sup>+</sup> current ( $I_{Ks}$ ), inward rectifier K<sup>+</sup> current ( $I_{K1}$ ), 80% of Na<sup>+</sup>/Ca<sup>2+</sup> exchange current ( $I_{NaCa}$ ), Na<sup>+</sup>/K<sup>+</sup> pump current ( $I_{NaK}$ ), background currents ( $I_{NaP}$ ,  $I_{K1P}$ , and  $I_{CaP}$ ), and sarcolemmal Ca<sup>2+</sup> pump current ( $I_{pCa}$ ). Currents into subspace: L-type Ca<sup>2+</sup> current ( $I_{CaL}$ ), with Na<sup>+</sup> and K<sup>+</sup> components ( $I_{CaNa}$ ,  $I_{CaK}$ ), and 20% of Na<sup>+</sup>/Ca<sup>2+</sup> exchange current ( $I_{NaCa}$ ). Ionic fluxes: Ca<sup>2+</sup> through ryanodine receptor ( $J_{RyR}$ ), NSR to JSR Ca<sup>2+</sup> translocation ( $J_{NSR}$ ), Ca<sup>2+</sup> uptake into NSR via SERCA2a/PLB ( $J_{SERCA}$ ), PLB - phospholamban, diffusion fluxes from subspace to myoplasm ( $J_{diffNSR}$ ,  $J_{diffJSR}$ , and  $J_{diffEC}$ ). Ca<sup>2+</sup> buffers: calmodulin (CALM), troponin (TRPN), calsequestrin (CSQ), anionic SR binding sites for Ca<sup>2+</sup> (BSR), anionic sarcolemmal binding sites for Ca<sup>2+</sup> (BSL), Ca<sup>2+</sup>/calmodulin-dependent protein kinase II (CaMK) and its targets are labeled. doi:10.1371/journal.pcbi.1002061.g005

ECC: Hunter-McCulloch  
1998 Models



ECC: Rice et al. 2008

ODE-Based Model of Cardiac Myofibrilment



ECC: Land-Niederer 2017

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{d\text{CaTRPN}}{dt} &= k_{\text{TRPN}} \left( \left( \frac{[\text{Ca}^{2+}]_i}{[\text{Ca}^{2+}]_{\text{T50}}} \right)^{n_{\text{TRPN}}} (1 - \text{CaTRPN}) - \text{CaTRPN} \right) \\ \frac{dB}{dt} &= k_b \cdot \text{CaTRPN}^{-n_{\text{TM}}/2} \cdot U - k_u \cdot \text{CaTRPN}^{n_{\text{TM}}/2} \cdot B \\ \frac{dW}{dt} &= k_{\text{uw}}U - k_{\text{wu}}W - k_{\text{ws}}W - \gamma_{\text{wu}}W \\ \frac{dS}{dt} &= k_{\text{ws}}W - k_{\text{su}}S - \gamma_{\text{su}}S \\ \frac{d\zeta_w}{dt} &= A_w \frac{d\lambda}{dt} - c_w\zeta_w \\ \frac{d\zeta_s}{dt} &= A_s \frac{d\lambda}{dt} - c_s\zeta_s \\ T_a &= \frac{T_{\text{ref}}}{r_s} (S(\zeta_s + 1) + W\zeta_w)\end{aligned}$$

$$\lambda = \text{SL}/\text{SL}_0 = \|\mathbf{F}\mathbf{f}\| \quad (\text{in multiscale simulations})$$

$$U = (1 - B) - S - W$$

$$\gamma_{\text{wu}} = \gamma_w |\zeta_w|$$

$$\gamma_{\text{su}} = \begin{cases} \gamma_s(-\zeta_s - 1) & \text{if } \zeta_s + 1 < 0 \\ \gamma_s\zeta_s & \text{if } \zeta_s + 1 > 1 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise (if } \zeta_s + 1 \in [0, 1]) \end{cases}$$

$$A_s = A_w = A_{\text{eff}} \cdot r_s / ((1 - r_s)r_w + r_s)$$

$$k_{\text{wu}} = k_{\text{uw}}(1/r_w - 1) - k_{\text{ws}}$$

$$k_{\text{su}} = k_{\text{ws}}r_w(1/r_s - 1)$$

$$k_b = k_u \text{CaTRPN}^{n_{\text{TM}}} / (1 - r_s - (1 - r_s)r_w)$$

$$c_w = \phi \cdot k_{\text{uw}} \cdot U/W = \phi \cdot k_{\text{uw}} \cdot ((1 - r_s)(1 - r_w)) / ((1 - r_s)r_w)$$

$$c_s = \phi \cdot k_{\text{ws}} \cdot W/S = \phi \cdot k_{\text{ws}} \cdot ((1 - r_s)r_w) / r_s$$

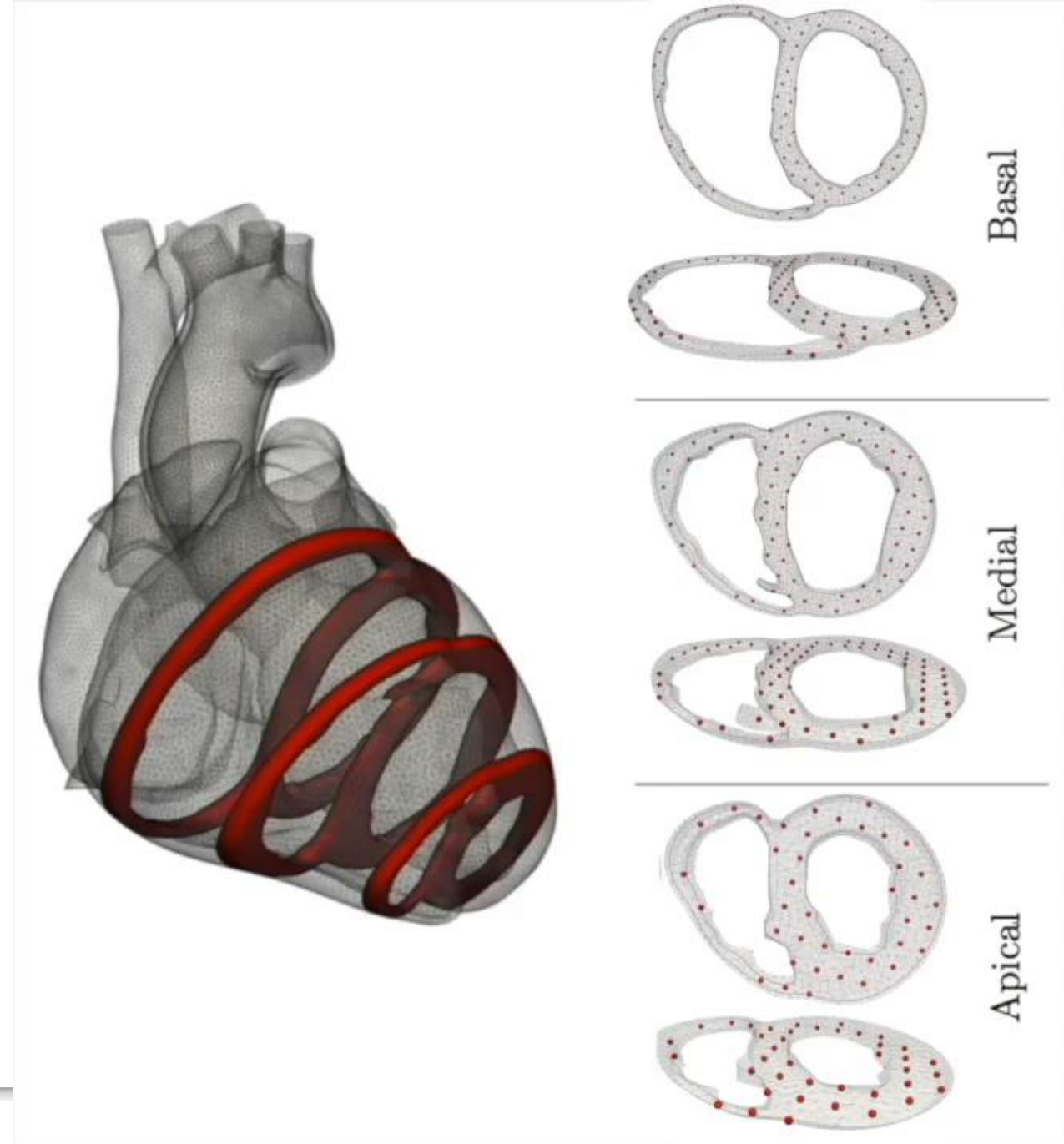
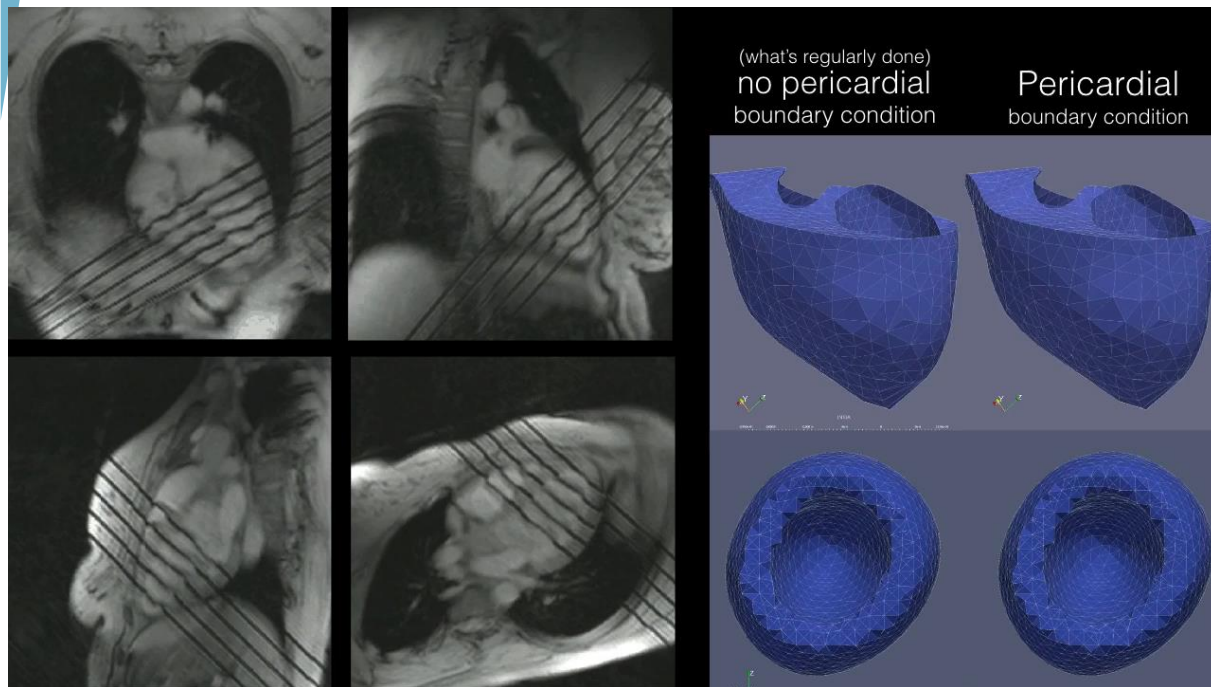
# Fully Coupled Electro-Mechanic-Fluid simulation

Number of elements: 4M total  
240 cores, 12 hrs, 400 ms





# Boundary Conditions and Physiological motion



# Human Biventricular Geometry Reconstruction

High Resolution MRI  
of Male and Female  
Human Hearts

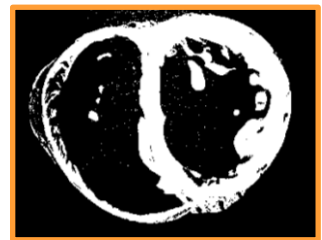
Courtesy of The Visible Heart ® Lab

Segmentation and Surface  
representation

Endocardial structures included are  $\geq 1 \text{ mm}^2$  cross-section

Biventricular Detailed  
Octree  
Volumetric Meshes

MAXIMUM ELEMENT SIDE LENGTH: 0.4  
mm



● Male Heart  
● Female Heart

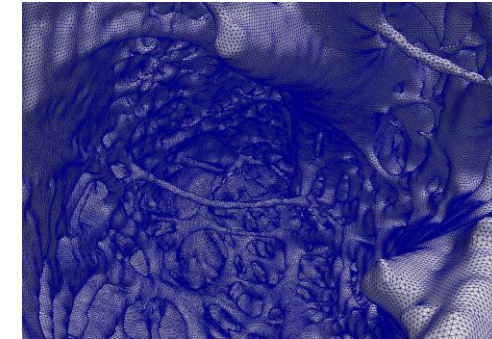
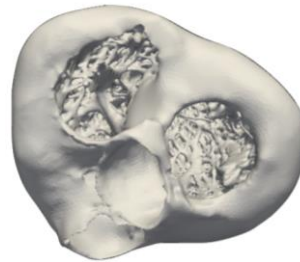


AUTODESK  
MESHMIXER

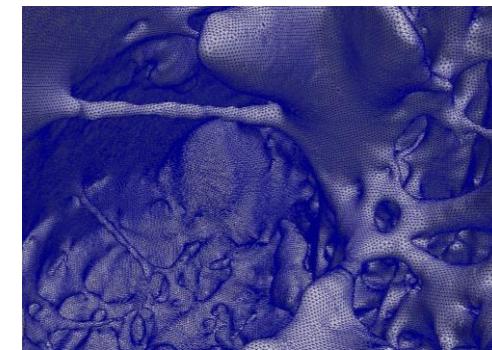
Fiji Is Just  
ImageJ

Seg3D

ReMESH



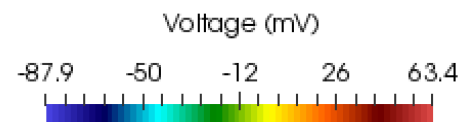
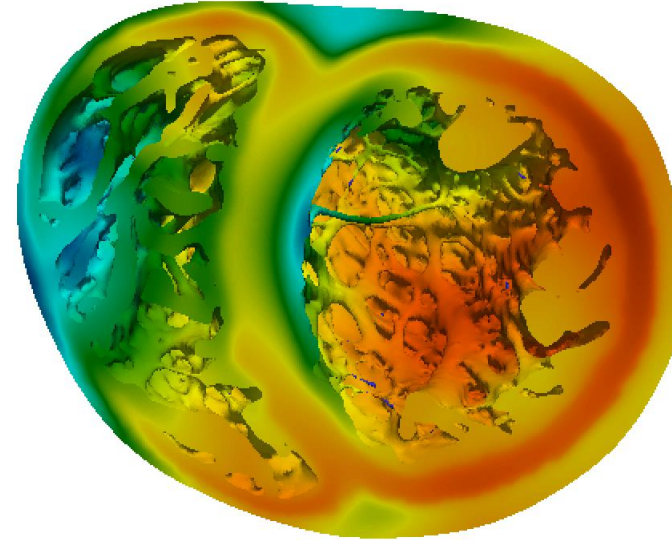
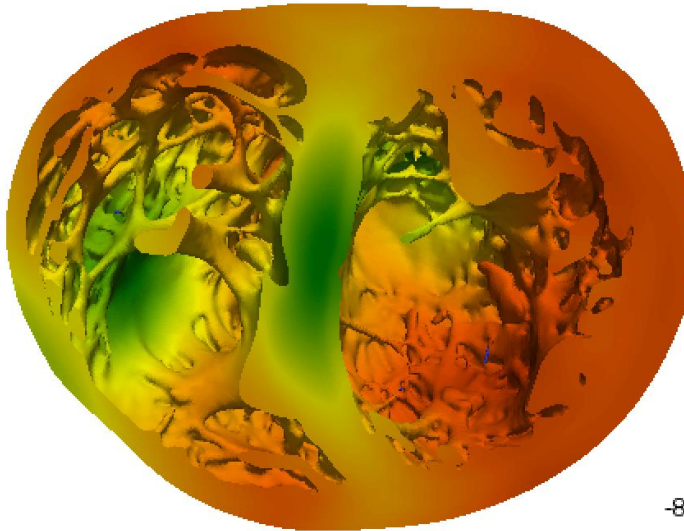
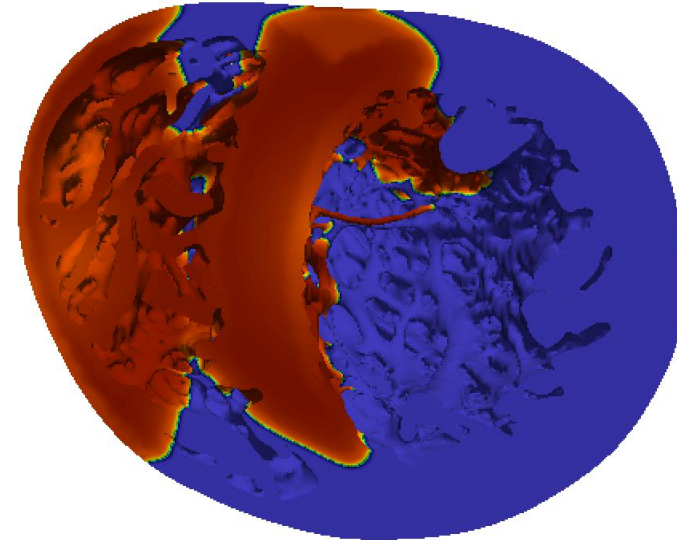
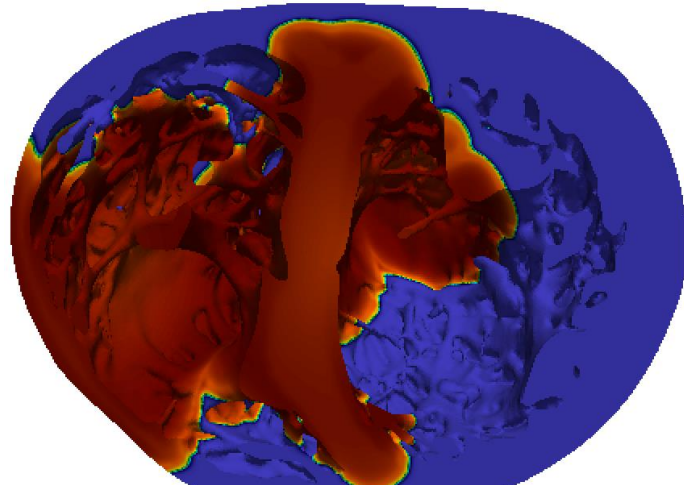
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Volume: 394.2 cm<sup>3</sup>  
n° points: 14.994.563



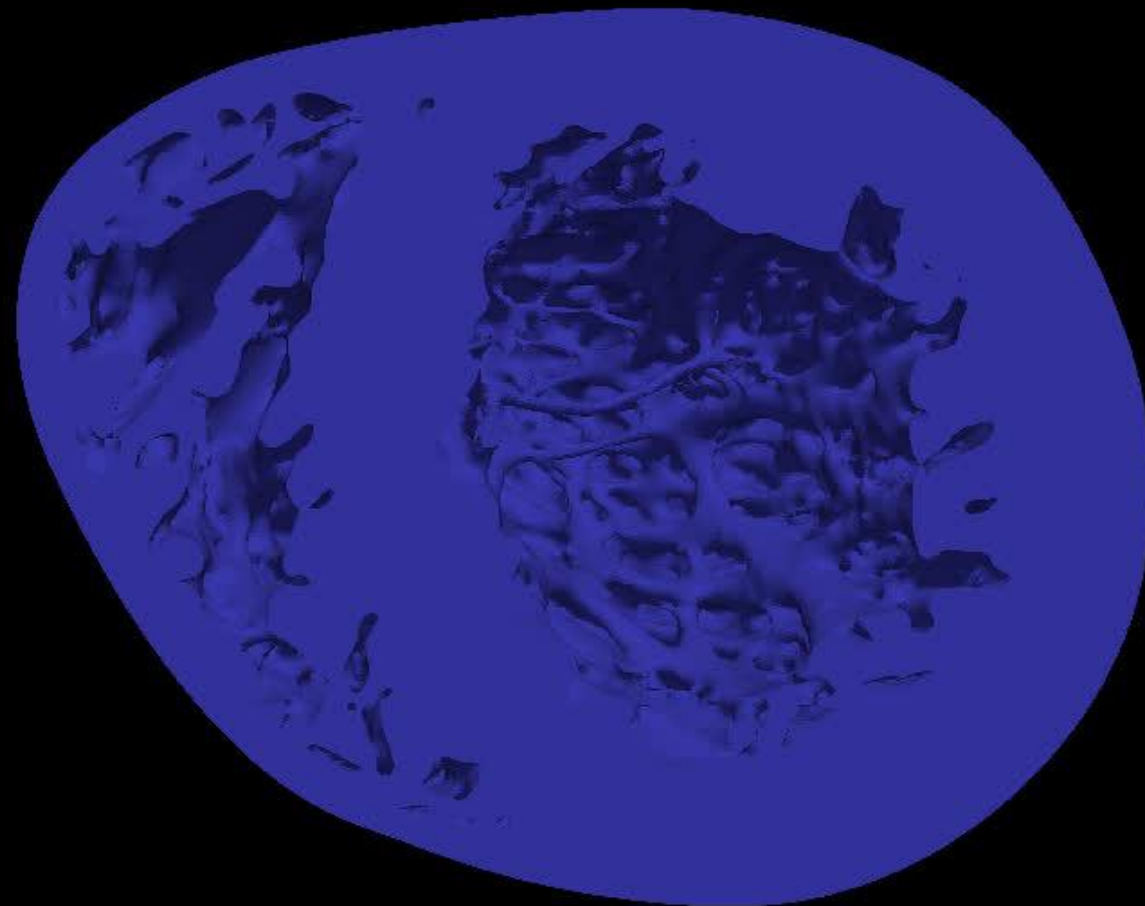
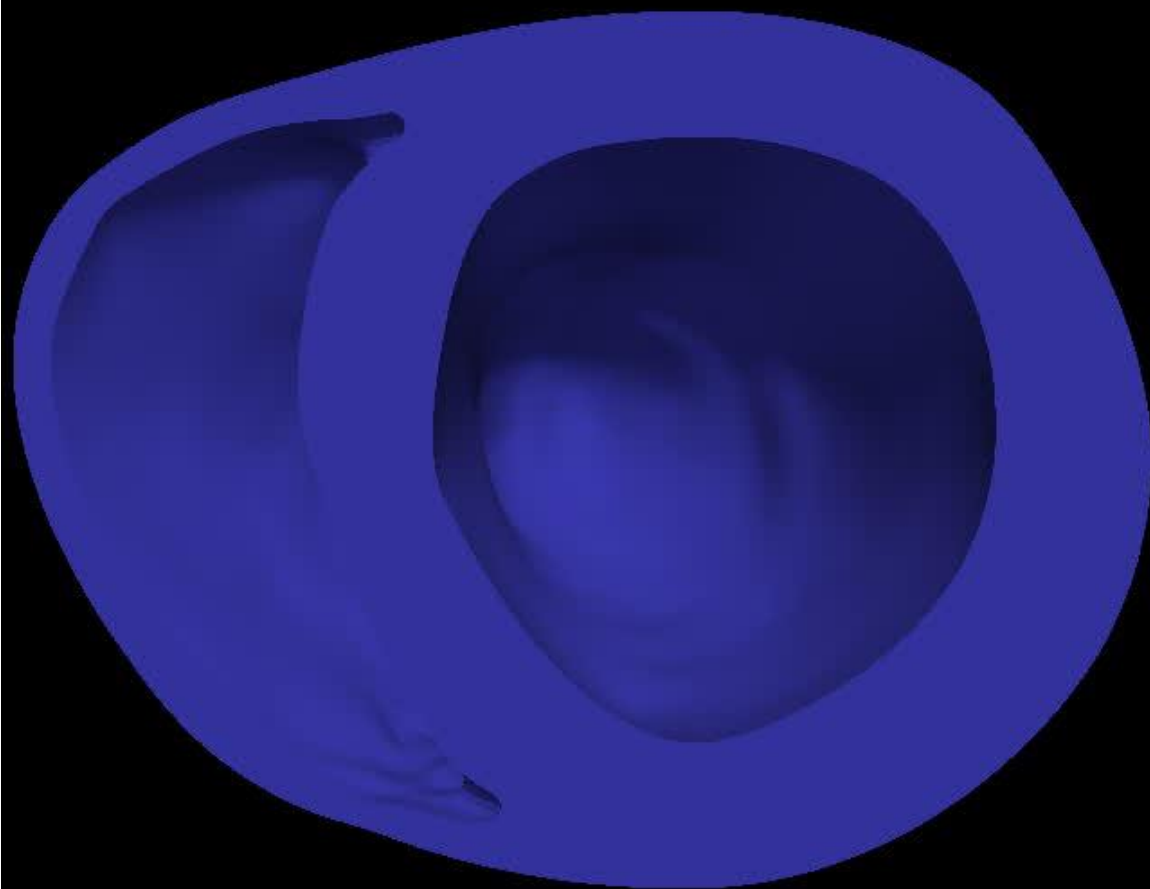
n° elements: 65.501.799  
Volume: 299.2 cm<sup>3</sup>  
n° points: 11.416.445

Kragujevac, Kick-off  
meeting









Time: 0.000000



Drug  
selection

Drug  
Database

Signaling  
Pathway  
selection

Minerva

Drug/Protein  
Interactions

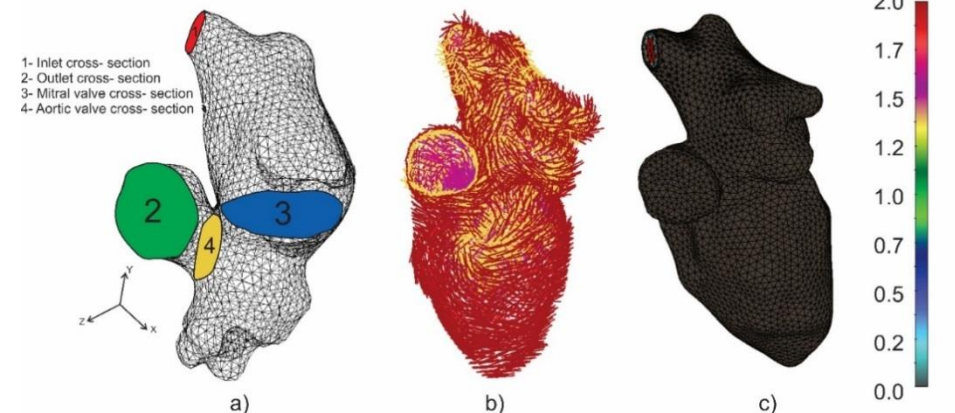
Data  
Collection

Molecular data

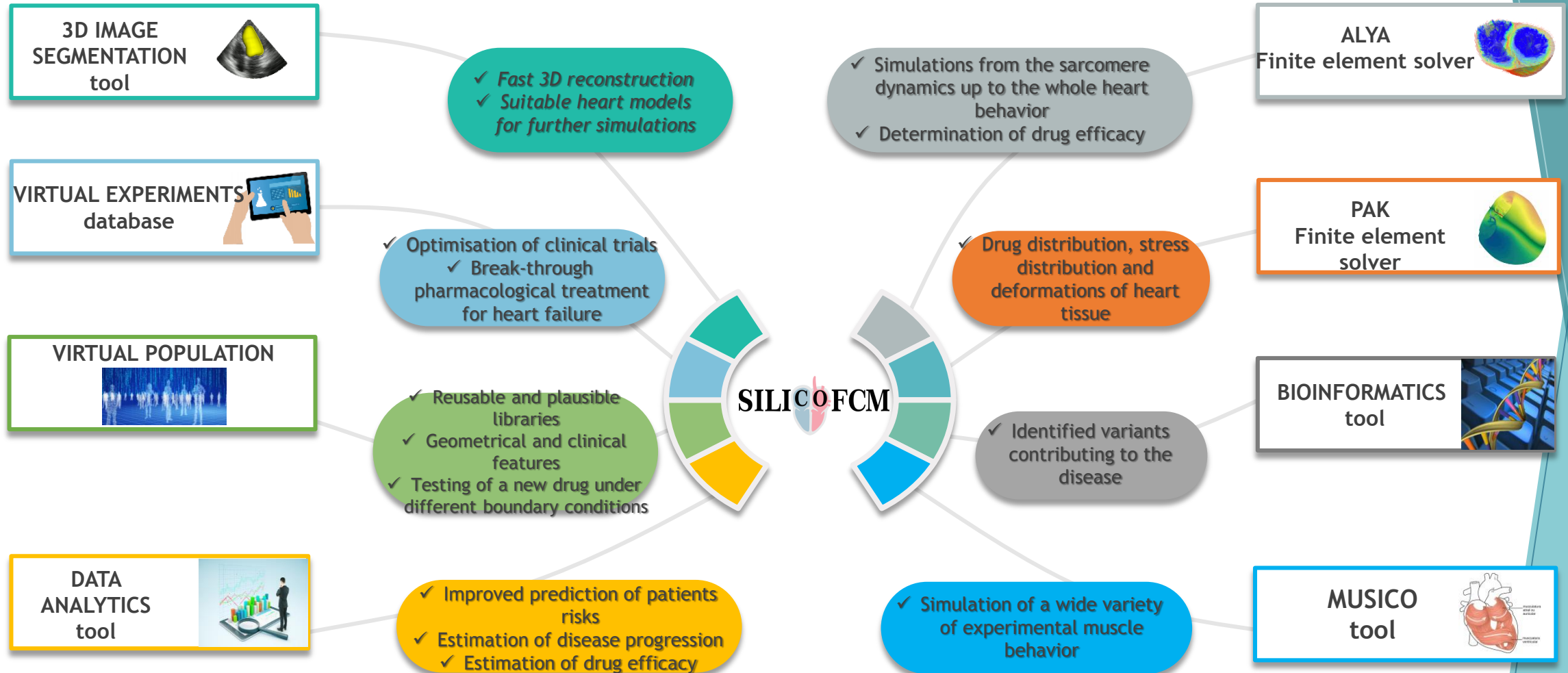
SILICOFCM  
MUSICO  
model

SILICOFCM finite  
element model

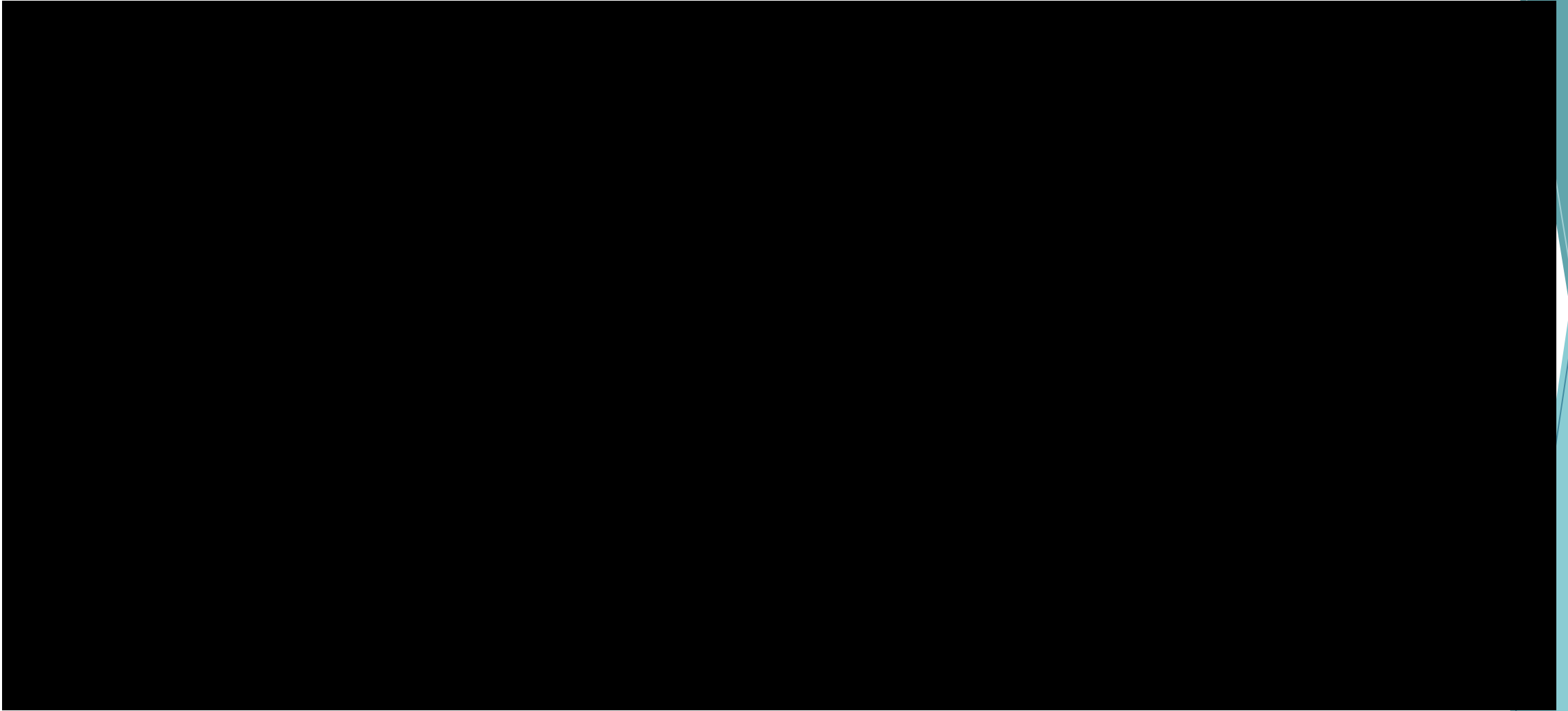
Clinical decision for  
patient therapy



## SILICOFCM Tools - Specific impact on Medical doctors, Pharmaceutical companies and Researchers

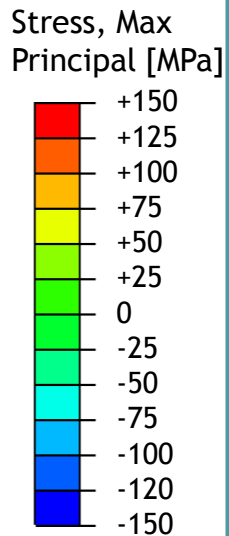
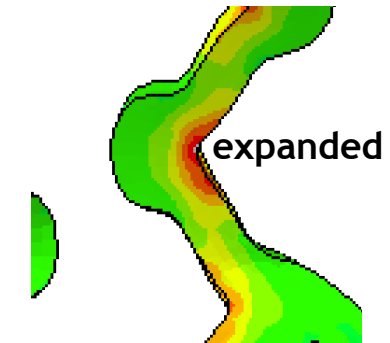
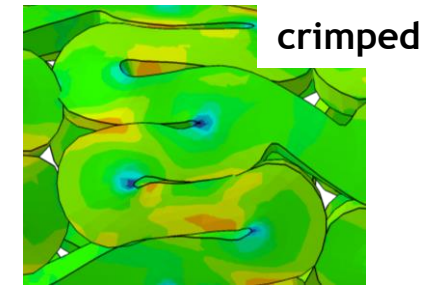
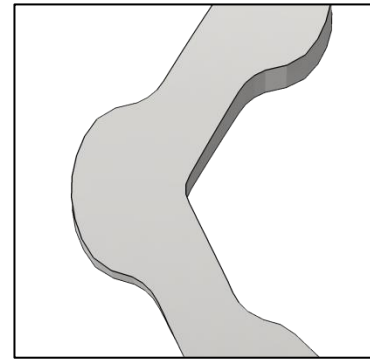
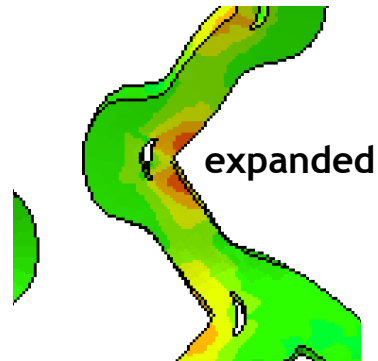
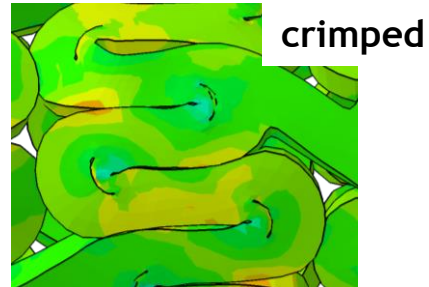
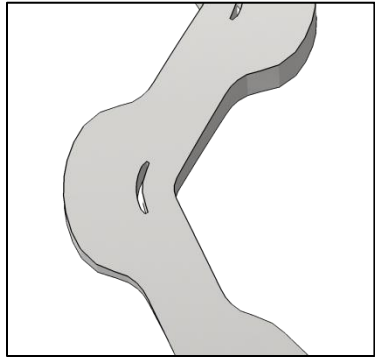
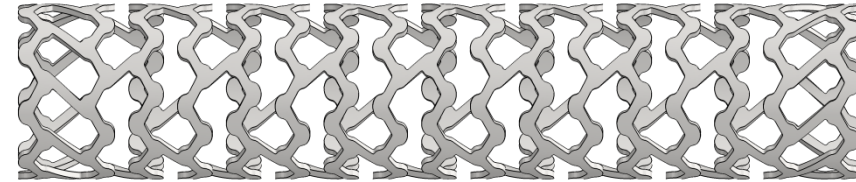
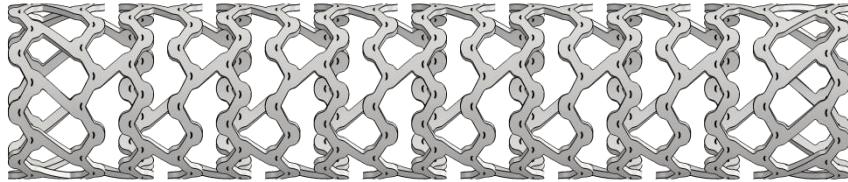


# DEMO



# Finite element modelling of the BVS .....implantation system.....

# PLLA prototype-V2 vs PLLA prototype



Antonini L., Poletti G., Mandelli L., Dubini G., Pennati G., Petrini L. Comprehensive computational analysis of the crimping procedure of PLLA BVS: effects of material viscous-plastic and temperature dependent behavior *J Mech Behav Biomed Mater*, 2021 (minor revisions)



# Task 5.1 Overview - DoA

DoA	1-18	19-24
<p>“detailed material characterization based on classical tests for viscoplastic materials... information obtained from experiments performed in Task 3.1 (Group 2) ... FE simulations for calibrating the viscoplastic parameters of the specific material”</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Synergy: material parameter definition from BSL data</li> <li>▪ PLLA prototype: tests on dogbones and material parameter definition</li> <li>▪ BVS-1: material parameters based on literature data</li> </ul>	<p><b>BVS-2: calibration</b> of nine material parameters based on device experimental tests (WP3) &amp; response surface creation</p>
<p>“The <b>accuracy</b> of these models will be assessed”</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Synergy: preliminary validation</li> <li>▪ PLLA prototype: preliminary validation</li> <li>▪ BVS-1: validation using literature data</li> </ul>	<p><b>Complete validation for :</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Synergy</li> <li>▪ PLLA prototype</li> <li>▪ PLLA prototype-V2</li> <li>▪ BVS-2</li> </ul>



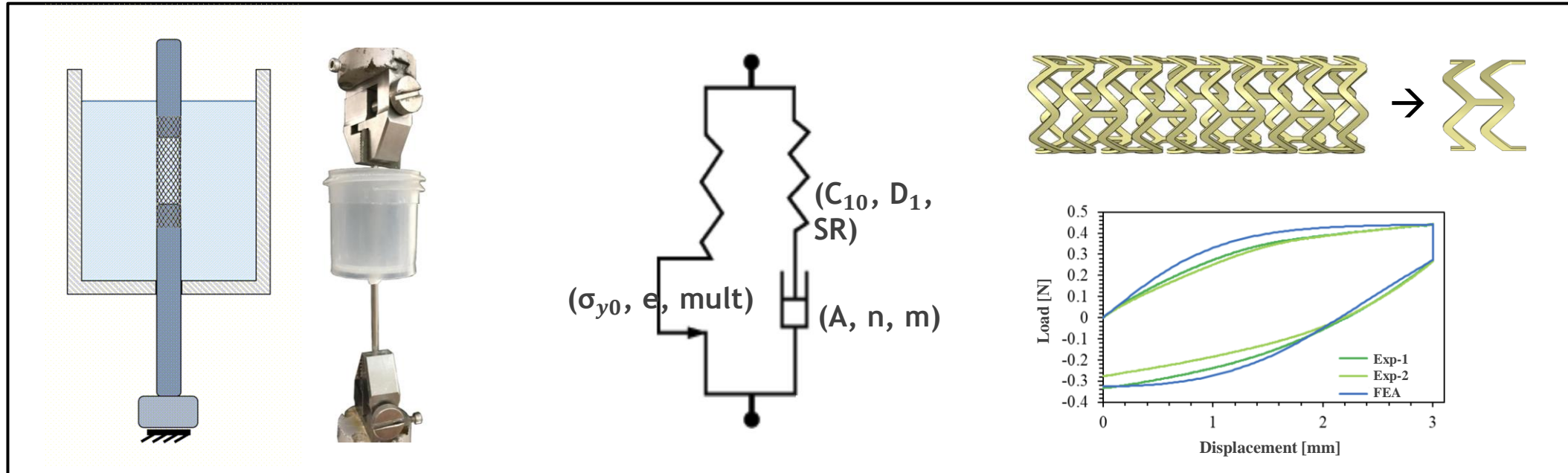


# BVS-2 calibration of material model

Experimental  
Tests

Selection of  
material model

Calibration of  
model parameters



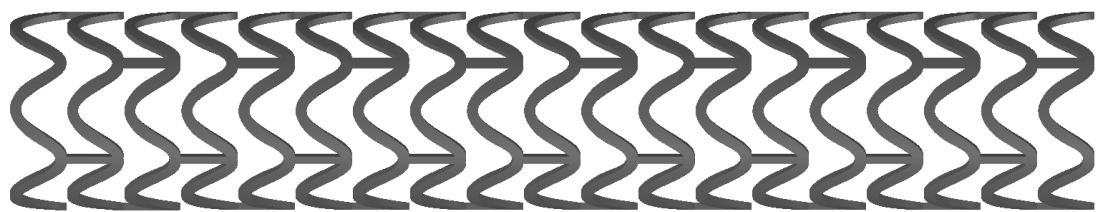
Antonini L., Berti F., Isella B., Hossain D., Mandelli L., Pennati G., Petrini L.  
From the real device to the digital twin: a coupled experimental-numerical strategy to investigate a novel bioresorbable vascular scaffold.  
PLOS ONE 2021 16(6): e0252788.  
<https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0252788>



# Validation of stent model

Free Expansion

BVS-2

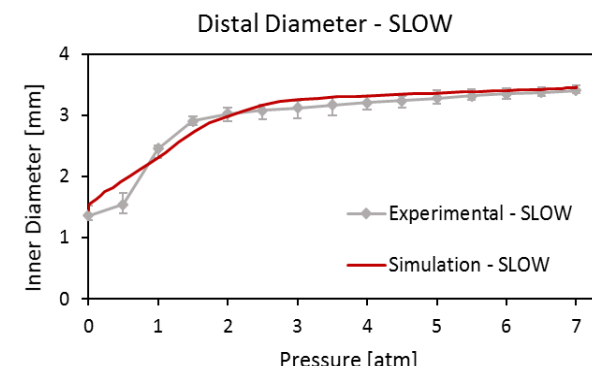
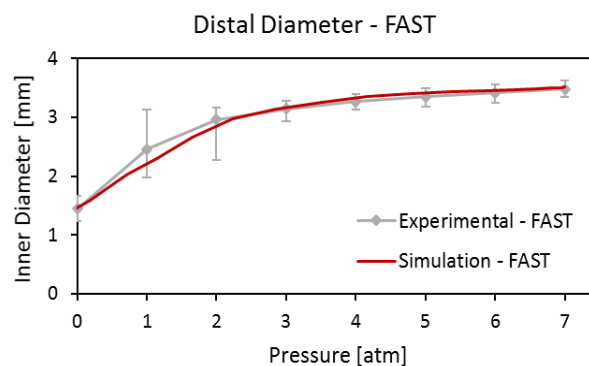
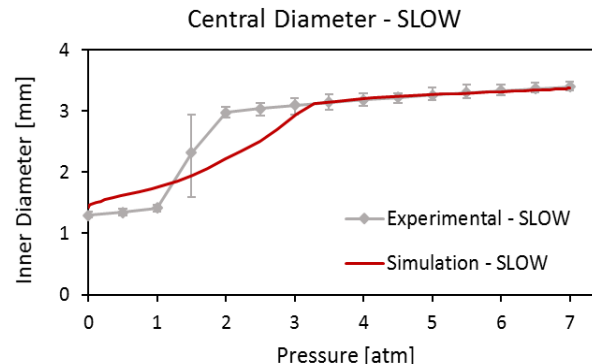
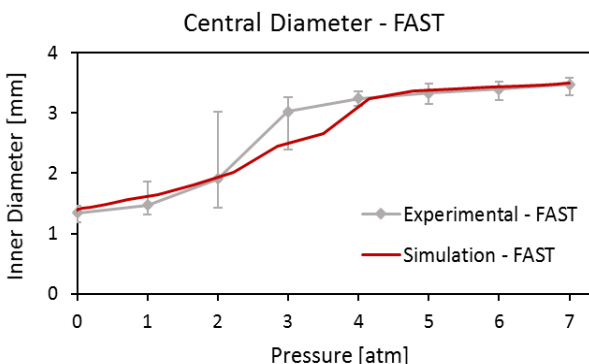
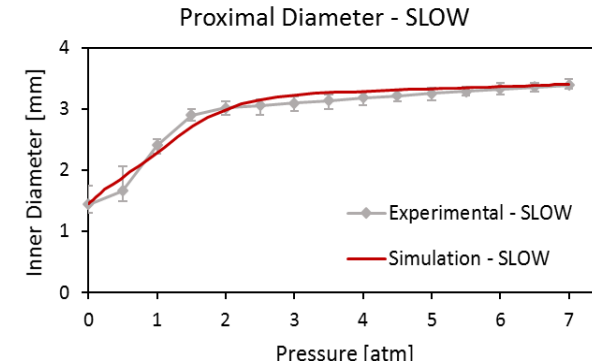
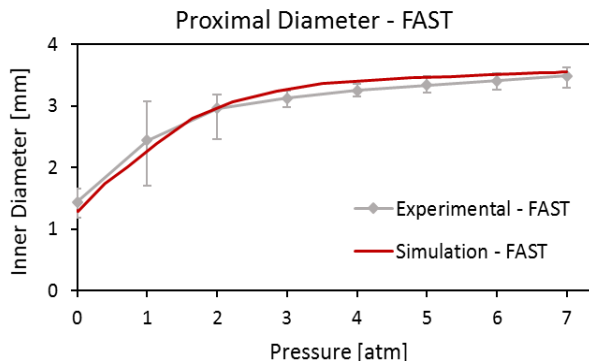


ASME V&V 40-2018

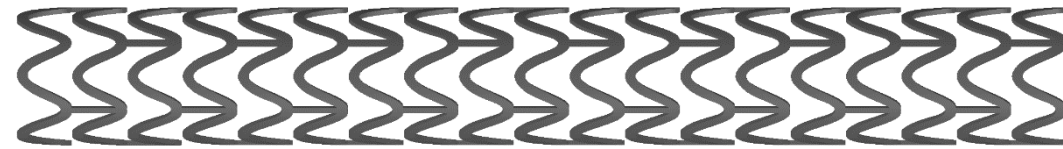
Assessing Credibility  
of Computational  
Modeling Through  
Verification and  
Validation: Application  
to Medical Devices



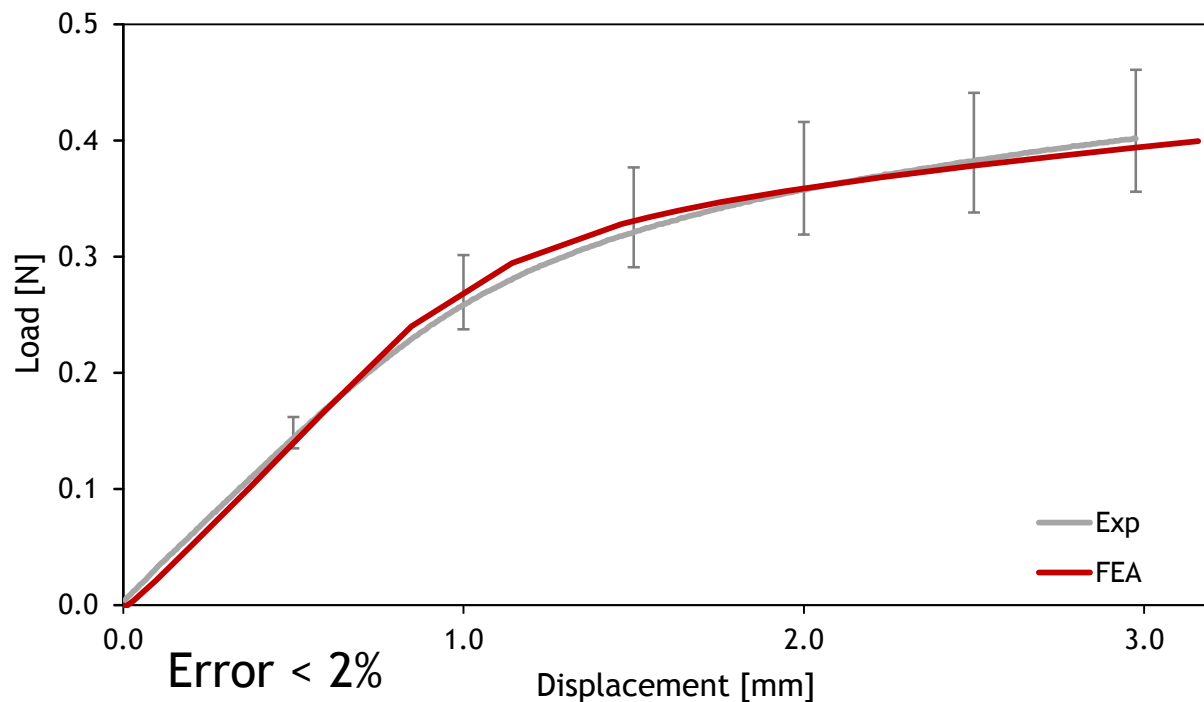
Diameter Error < 5%



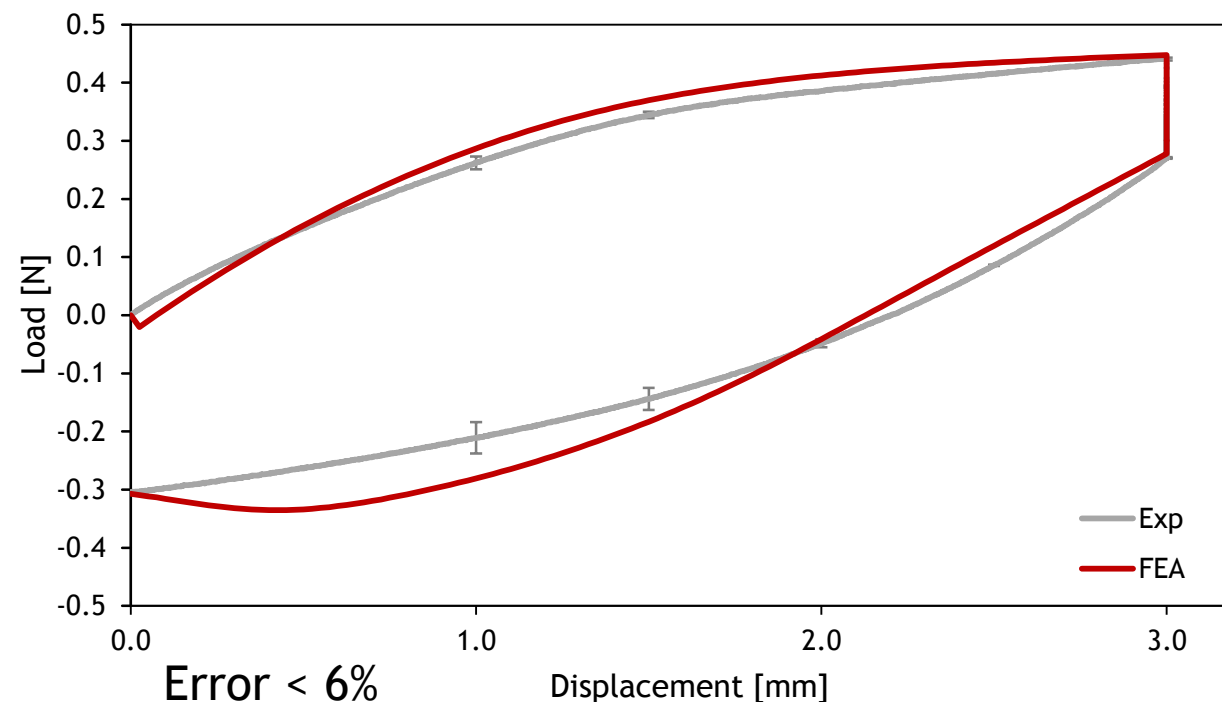
# Validation of stent models



SYNERGY Uniaxial tensile test



BVS-2 Uniaxial tensile test



Antonini L., Mandelli L., Berti F., Pennati G., Petrini L. Validation of the computational model of a coronary stent: a fundamental step towards in-silico trials J Mech Behav Biomed Mater, 2021 (accepted)



# Challenges & Beyond the state-of-the-art

## Challenges

- ▶ Creation of a **database** of virtual coronary devices with realistic behavior to be used for in silico stenting

## Beyond the state of the art

- ▶ **Material** (metal and polymer) **properties specifically characterized** for each delivery system
- ▶ **Extensively validated models (V & V40)** of BVS and DES delivery systems
- ▶ **Large database of virtual stenting devices:** BVS, DES delivery systems and angioplasty balloons

# Mechanical Modelling Module



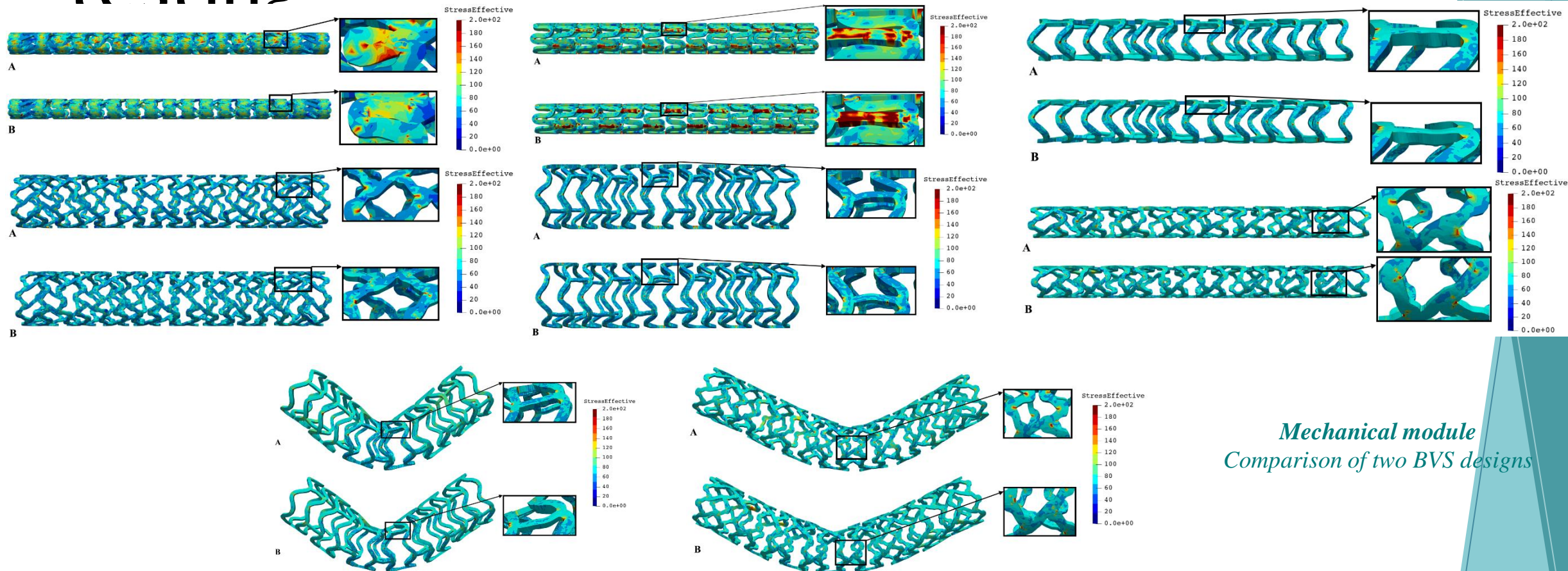
# Task 5.2 Overview - DoA

DoA	1-18	19-24
<p>“The creation of the <b>Mechanical Modelling Module</b>, consisting of a number of FE simulations <b>mimicking the in vitro mechanical testing</b> performed in Task 3.1 (Group 1). All the in vitro tests required by technical standards will be systematically reproduced by corresponding in-silico mechanical testing”</p>	<p><b>Preliminary In silico testing</b> has been performed for the following commercial and prototype stents:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Synergy</li> <li>- PLLA prototype</li> </ul>	<p><b>Development of a Mechanical Modelling Module</b> capable of performing all necessary simulations of mechanical tests with different material models requested by appropriate <b>ISO standards</b> for testing stent devices.</p>
<p>“The coronary <b>BVS implantation</b> systems developed in Task 5.1 are <b>coupled to proper models of the experimental set-ups</b> adopted in Task 3.1. ”</p>	<p><b>New material model</b> has been developed and tested on the results from Task 3.1.</p>	<p><b>Material models of BVS material</b>, integrated in PAK (in-house solver) A newly developed material model for simulation of PLLA or other similar polymer materials based on the original experimental curves from BSL partner</p>





# Mechanical module for BVS device testing



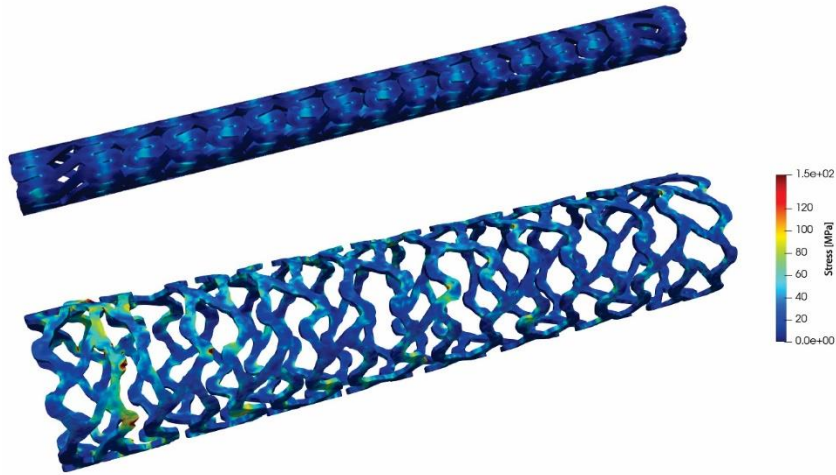
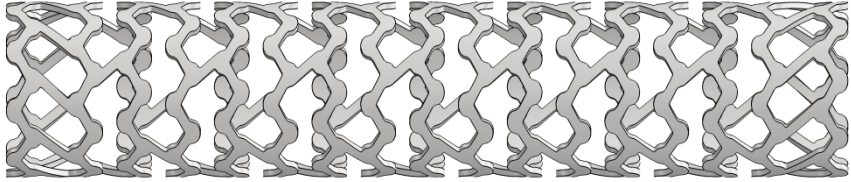
*Mechanical module  
Comparison of two BVS designs*

Filipovic N, Nikolic D, Isailovic V, Milosevic M, Geroski V, Karanasiou G, Fawdry M, Flanagan A, Fotiadis D, Kojic M.  
In vitro and in silico testing of partially and fully bioresorbable vascular scaffold. *J Biomech.* 2021;115:110158

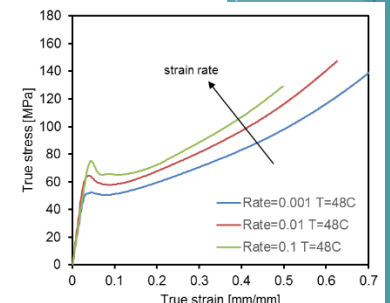
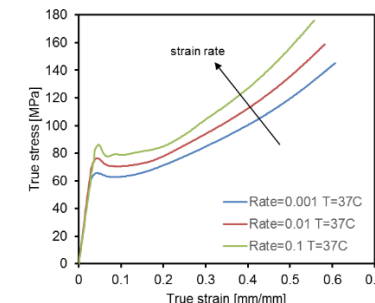
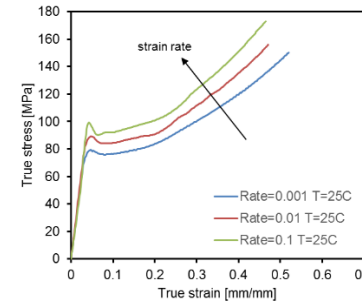




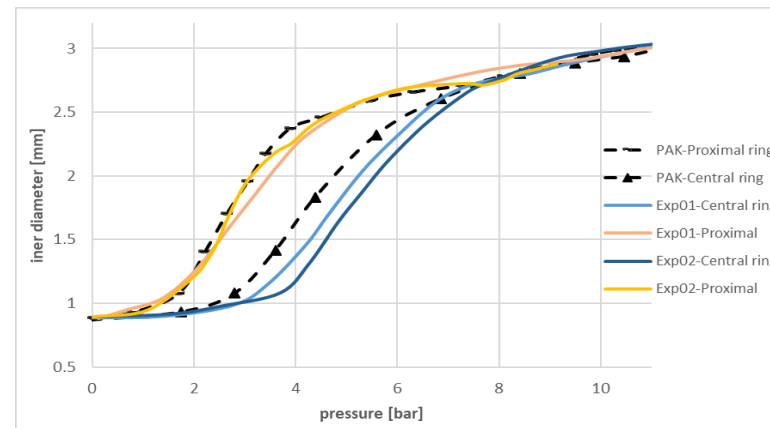
# PLLA material model



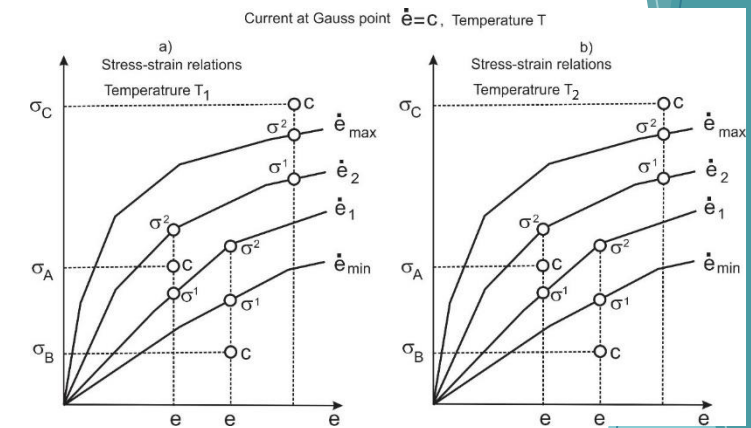
Stress distribution – BVS prototype device, inflation test



Average tensile test results provided by BSL at different temperatures and strain rates



Comparison of diameter-pressure curves,  
PAK vs experiment for BVS prototype device, inflation test



Uniaxial stress-strain curves for different strain rates and two temperatures

Filipovic N, Nikolic D, Isailovic V, Milosevic M, Geroski V, Karanasiou G, Fawdry M, Flanagan A, Fotiadis D, Kojic M.

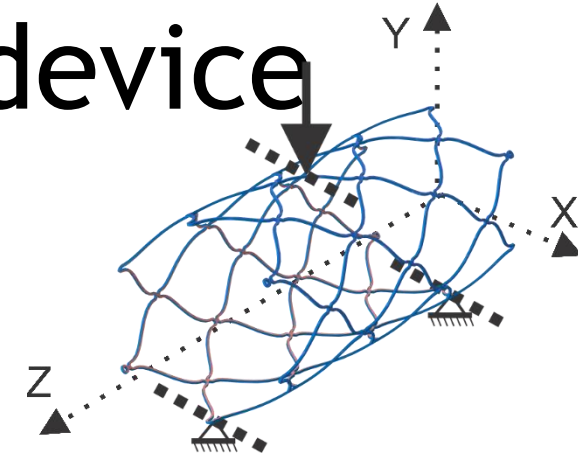
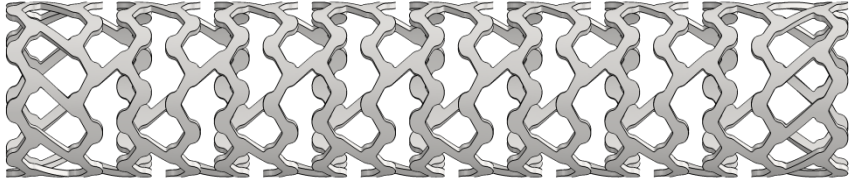
In vitro and in silico testing of partially and fully bioresorbable vascular scaffold. *J Biomech.* 2021;115:110158



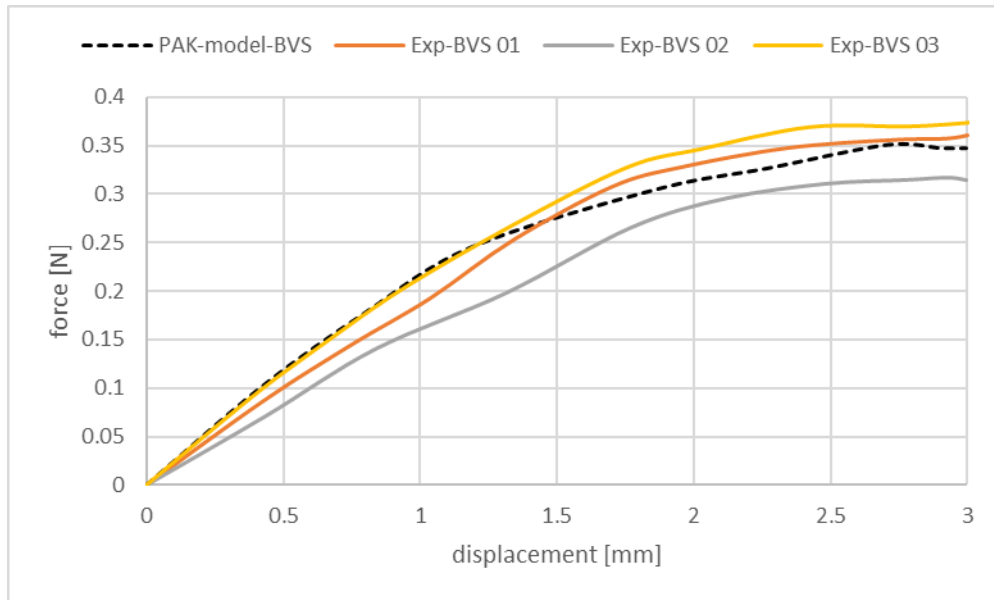
# Task 5.2 Overview - DoA

DoA	1-18	19-24
<p>“Among the <i>in silico</i> tests are the dimensional verification, foreshortening, dog boning, radial force, local compression, crush resistance with parallel plates, three-point bending and fatigue. Risk of fatigue failure is also calculated.”</p>	<p>The following tests were <b>simulated on DES</b>: Inflation test , Radial compression test, Crush test, Local compression test, Three-point bending test, Tensile test, Flex/kink test, Radial fatigue test, Simulated use test.</p>	<p>The following tests were <b>simulated on fully <u>BVS prototype device</u></b> :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Three-point bending of BVS device</li> <li>- Longitudinal tensile strength of BVS device</li> <li>- Flex-kink of BVS device</li> </ul>
<p>“The <b>comparison</b> between in vitro tests and in-silico results will allow <b>accurate validation</b> of the in-silico protocol to <b>simulate a complete bench mechanical testing for BVSs.</b>”</p>	<p>Performed simulations and their <b>validation by comparison with the results from real mechanical tests</b> showed that it is possible to replace all in vitro mechanical tests with <b>faster and cheaper in silico tests.</b></p>	<p>The <b>simulations of mechanical tests</b> are performed on two different types of stent devices. The <b>comparison</b> of the tests results interpreted in form of <b>graphs (displacement-force curve)</b> obtained from the fully BVS devices (PLLA prototypes) show <b><u>very good matching</u></b> with results from real mechanical tests.</p>

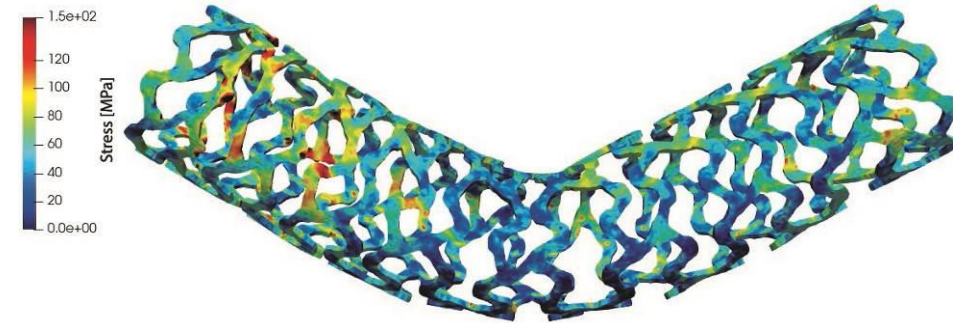
# Three-point bending of BVS device



Real mechanical test setup for three point bend test (left);  
three point bend test simulation - boundary condition (right)



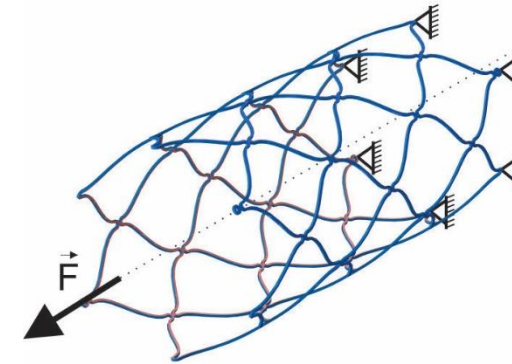
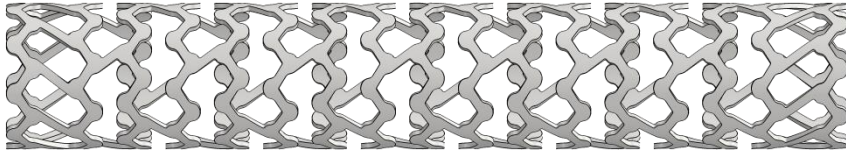
Comparison of displacement-force curves,  
PAK vs experiment for BVS prototype device, three-point bending test



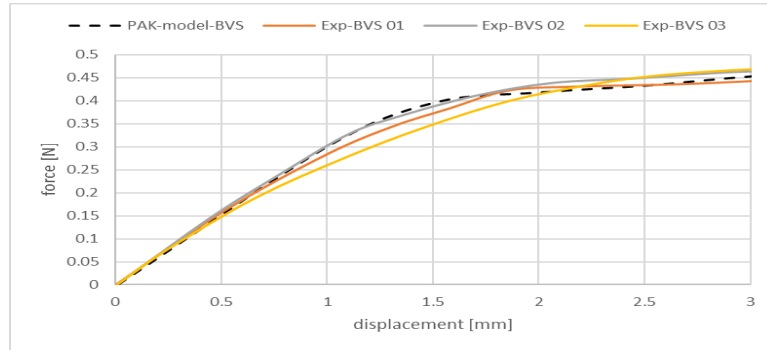
Stress distribution – BVS prototype device, three-point bending

Model	BVS prototype devices N=4
Coefficient of determination - $R^2$	0.9900
Correlation coefficient R	0.995
Significance level	$P < 0.0001$

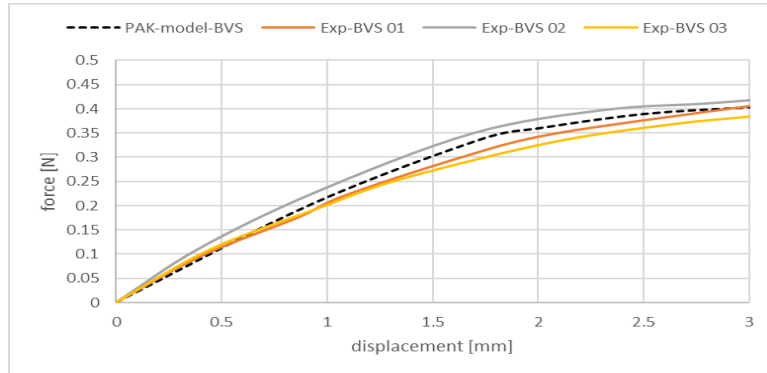
# Longitudinal tensile strength of BVS device



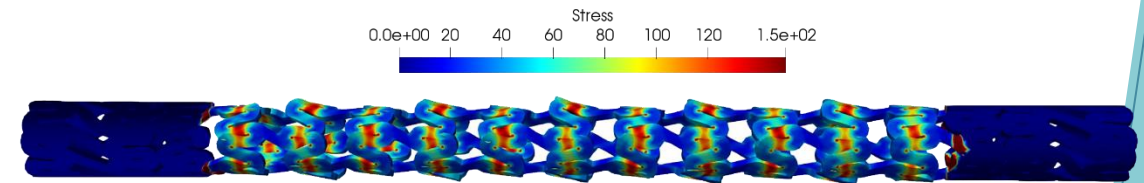
Real mechanical test setup for longitudinal tensile test (left); longitudinal tensile test simulation - boundary condition (right)



Comparison of displacement-force curves – Fast protocol, PAK vs experiment for BVS prototype device, longitudinal tensile strength test



Comparison of displacement-force curves – Slow protocol, PAK vs experiment for BVS prototype device, longitudinal tensile strength test



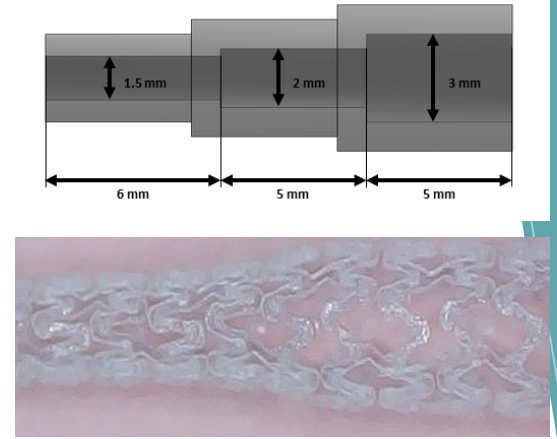
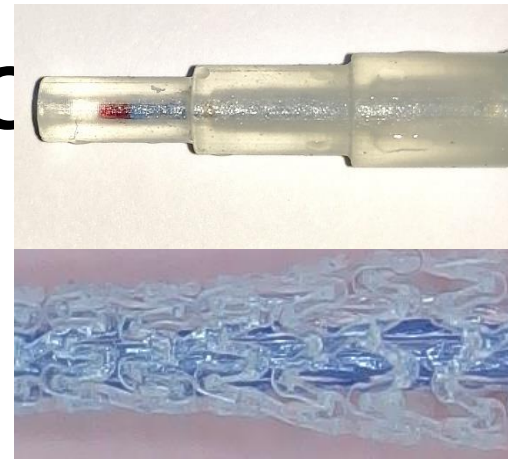
Stress distribution – BVS prototype device, longitudinal tensile strength test

Model	BVS prototype devices N=4
Coefficient of determination - $R^2$	0.9944
Correlation coefficient R	0.9984
Significance level	0.0001

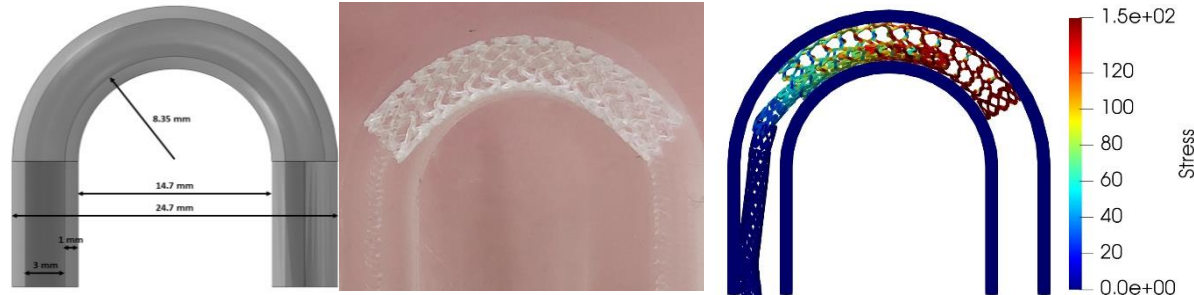
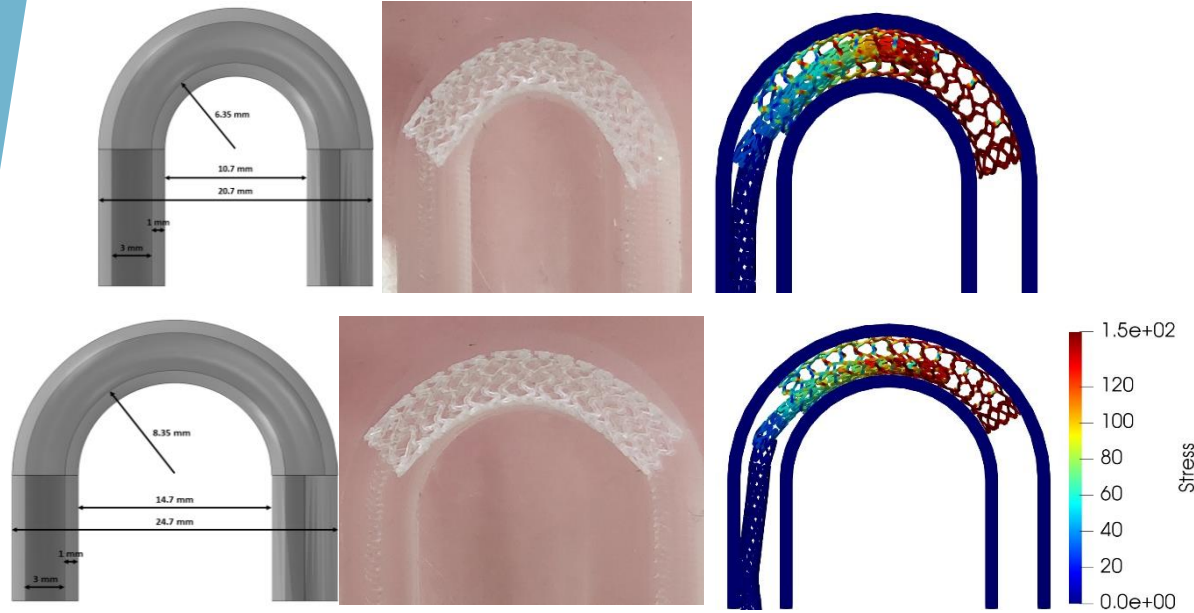
Coefficient of determination ( $R^2$ ) – longitudinal tensile test, fast protocol



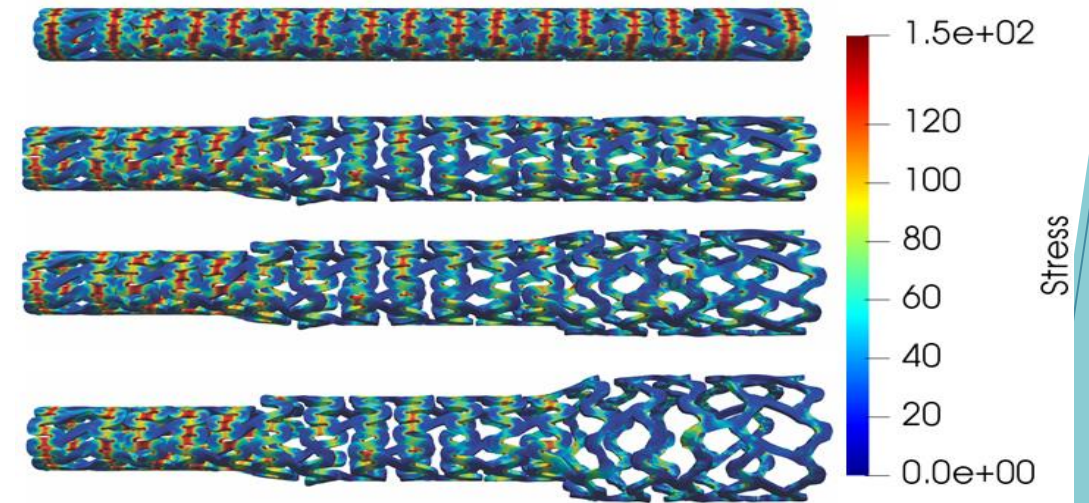
# Flex-kink of BVS device



Real mechanical test setup for kink test (top left);  
kink test simulation - boundary condition (top right)  
BVS devices after kink tests were performed – kinking not observed (bottom)



Flex test simulation - boundary condition (left)  
Real mechanical test setup for flex test (middle);  
Flex test simulation – results stress distribution (right)



Stress distribution – BVS prototype device,  
Shape of expanded BVS prototype device, kink test

# Challenges & Beyond the state-of-the-art

## Challenges

- ▶ The development of material model and methods for in silico **mimicking the real mechanical tests** on BVS and DES devices.
- ▶ The **developed module** is capable of performing all necessary simulations of mechanical tests with different material models requested by appropriate **ISO standards** for testing stent devices.
- ▶ **To validate** in silico module results

## Beyond the state of the art

- ▶ **Newly developed material model** for simulation of PLLA or other similar polymer materials show **very satisfying performance and results**.
- ▶ A **Mechanical Modelling Module** with a **full set of in silico mechanical test benches**
- ▶ **Validated material and test-bench models** for BVS and DES delivery systems



# Deployment Module



# Task 5.3 Overview - DoA

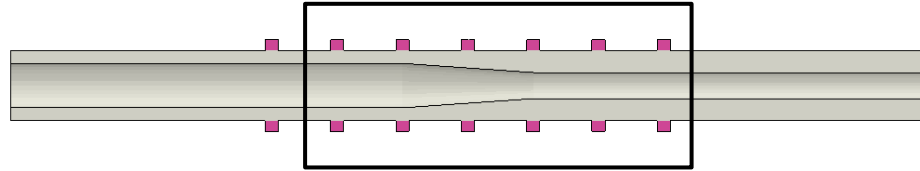
DoA	6-18	19-41
<p><b>SubTask 5.3.1 - Implementation and validation of in-silico stenting procedure</b></p> <p>“The real <b>BVS</b> samples will be deployed within the <b>mock coronary vessels</b>... different geometries (including bifurcations) obtained by rapid prototyping (...mimicking also possible wall <b>calcifications</b>)”</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Design of several <b>mock vessels</b> to be 3D printed</li> <li>▪ Design of the experimental set-up and <b>measurement system</b></li> <li>▪ Deployment of <b>Synergy</b> samples in <b>3D printed single vessels</b></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Design of <u><b>new mock vessels</b></u> with <b>markers</b> and <b>calcifications</b></li> <li>▪ Deployment of <b>Synergy</b> and <b>BVS-2</b> samples in 3D printed single and <b>bifurcated</b> vessels</li> </ul>
<p>The <b>BVS</b> models will be used to <b>simulate</b> the deployment inside mock coronary segments</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <b>FE models</b> of mock-up vessels</li> <li>▪ <b>Preliminary simulations</b> of Synergy deployment within the mock-up vessels</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <b>FE models</b> of the final mock vessels</li> <li>▪ <u><b>Final simulations of Synergy and BVS-2 deployment</b></u> mimicking all the in vitro experiments</li> </ul>



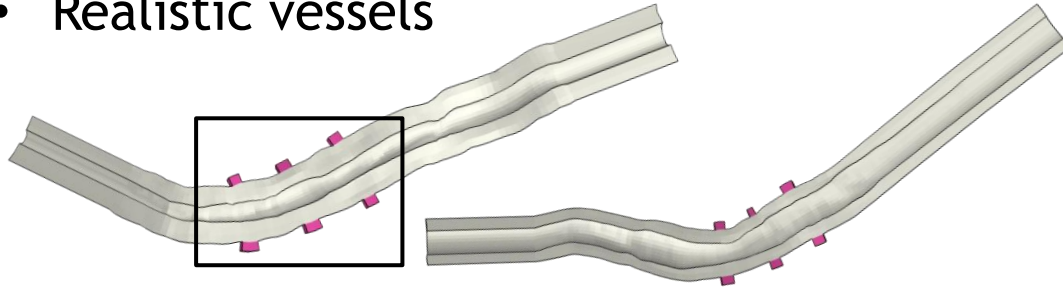


# Mock-vessels & In-vitro vs. In-silico deployment

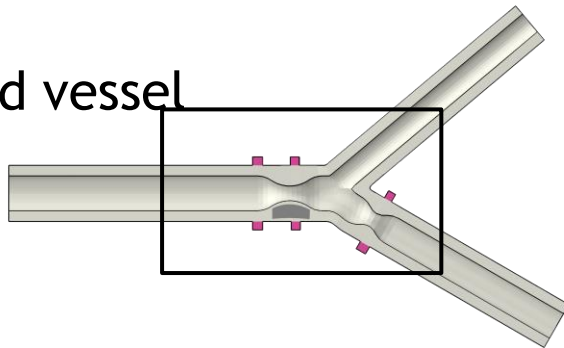
- Idealized vessel



- Realistic vessels



- Bifurcated vessel



# Task Overview - DoA

## SubTask 5.3.1

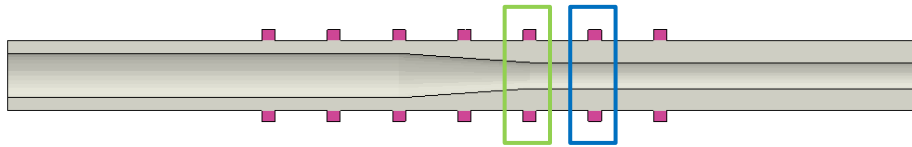
DoA	6-18	19-41
“The comparison of FEA and in vitro results will allow an effective <b>validation</b> of the BVS implantation stenting system and the in-silico deployment procedure”	Analysis of V & V40	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Analysis of <b>uncertainties</b> for model inputs and comparators for validation</li> <li>▪ <u>Comparison</u> of in vitro and in <u>silico</u> results in terms of pressure-diameter curves at several vessel locations and <b>error evaluations</b></li> </ul>
“...by using data deriving from <b>animal studies</b> (Task 3.2) a more complete validation will be accomplished”	Selection of animal cases (from Task 3.2) to simulate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <b>FE models</b> of animal arteries (reconstructed in WP4)</li> <li>▪ <b>Simulations</b> of Synergy and PLLA prototype deployment</li> <li>▪ Analysis of <b>uncertainties</b> for model inputs and comparators for validation</li> <li>▪ <u>Comparison</u> with animal <u>OCT data</u> (Task 3.2) and <b>error evaluations</b></li> </ul>



# Validation of In-silico deployment

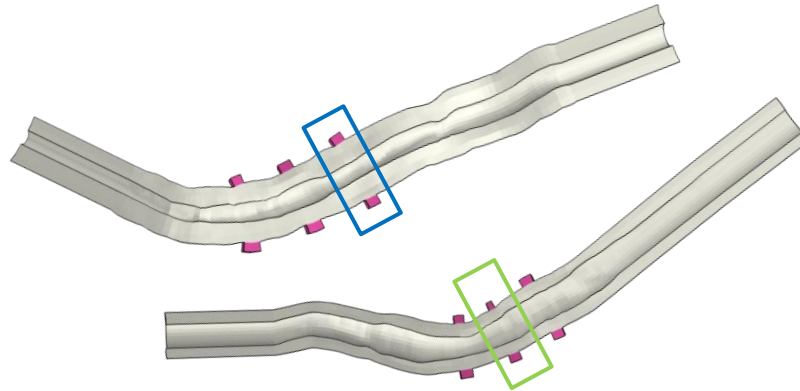
SYNERGY

BVS-2



ASME V&V 40-2018

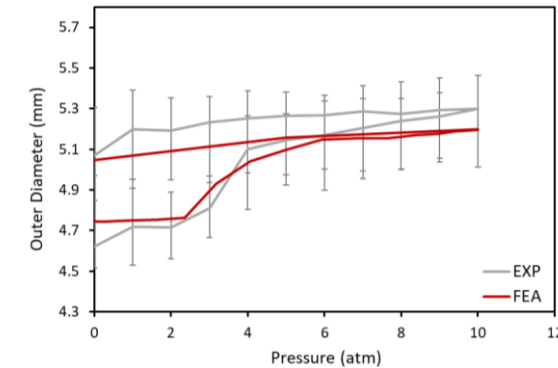
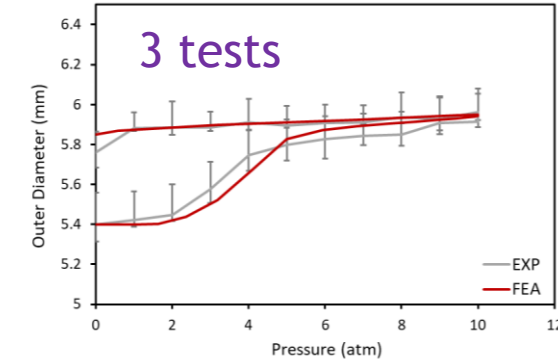
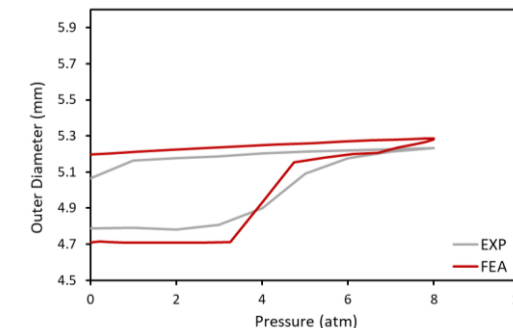
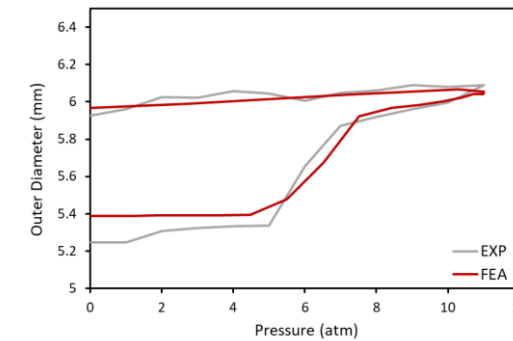
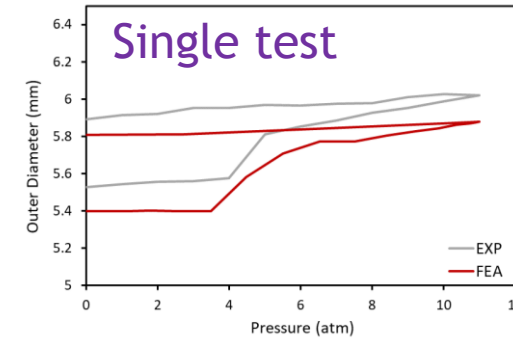
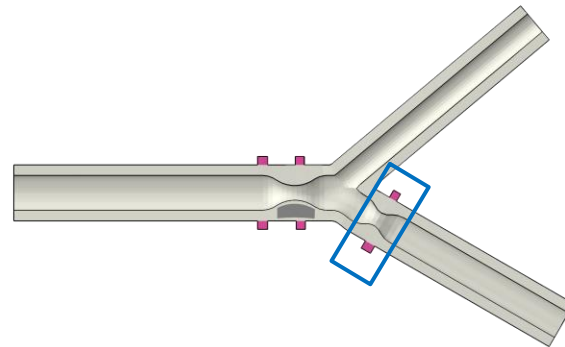
Assessing Credibility of Computational Modeling Through Verification and Validation: Application to Medical Devices



AN INTERNATIONAL STANDARD



How to validate in silico deployment of coronary stents: strategies and limitations in the choice of the comparator - *Frontiers* 2021 (under review)



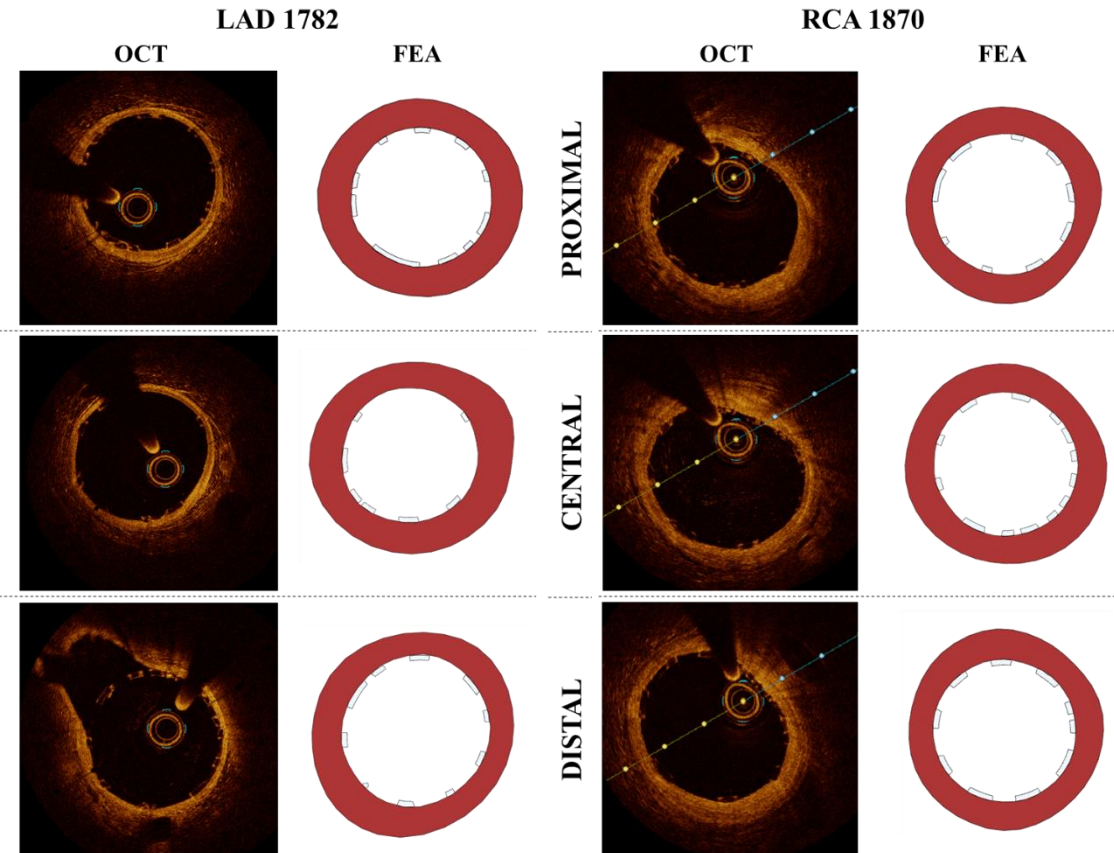
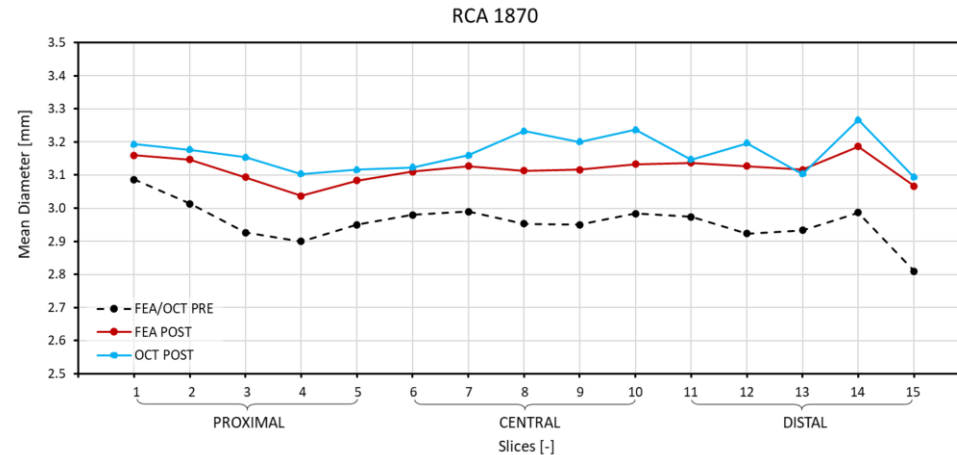
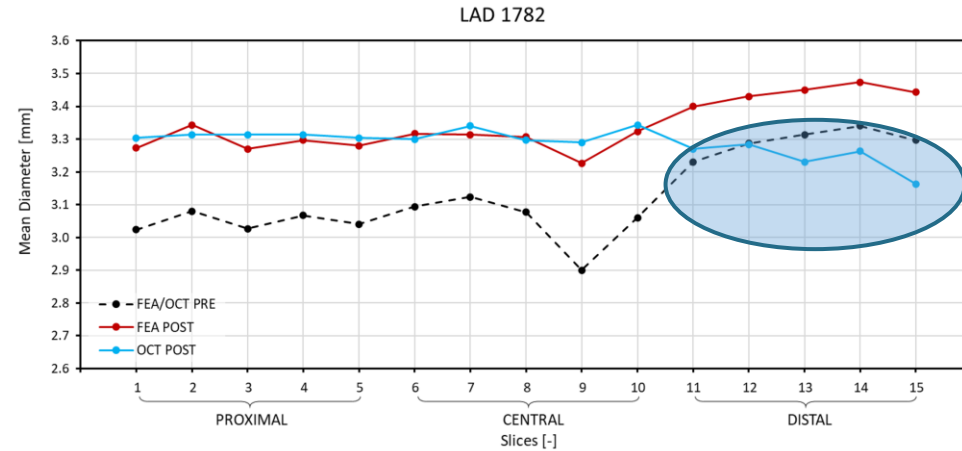
Diameter errors < 3%



This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No 777204

# Animal studies

In vivo comparator uncertainty



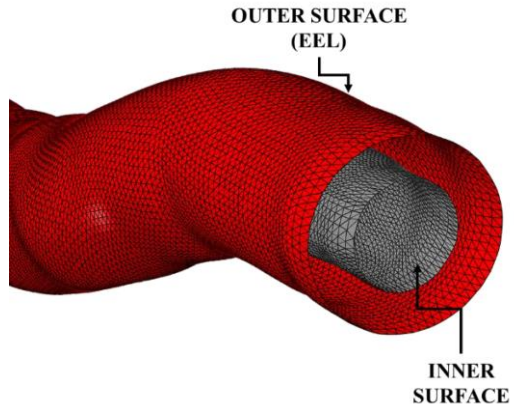


# Task 5.3 Overview - DoA

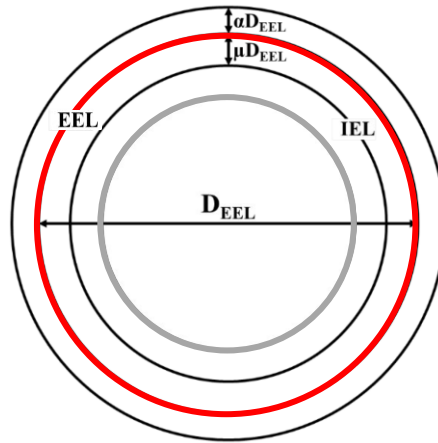
DoA	6-18	19-41
<p><b>Subtask 5.3.2 - Deployment Module development and integration in the Cloud platform</b></p> <p>“accurate simulations of the BVS deployment within human stenosed coronary arteries will be performed... geometrical and mechanical information based on retrospective (Task 4.1) and prospective (Task 8.1) clinical data will be applied to model the coronary artery and the atherosclerotic plaque.”</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <b>Strategy</b> to model different layers of arterial wall based on OCT data</li> <li>▪ <b>Mesh</b> sensitivity</li> <li>▪ Preliminary <b>use cases</b></li> </ul>	<p><u>Several patient-specific cases</u> (from Task 8.1) were modelled based on reconstructed anatomies (in WP4)</p>
<p>... <b>detailed constitutive models</b> ... will be used for the <b>coronary wall</b>... for the plaque we will consider different biomechanical models for the <b>various plaque constituents</b>”</p>	<p><b>Parameter calibration</b> for material constitutive models (healthy wall, plaque, calcifications) using literature data</p>	<p><u>Novel optimized strategy</u> to model the coronary artery wall and plaque components based on clinical images</p>

# Patient-specific cases

Detectable from images  
(two surfaces)

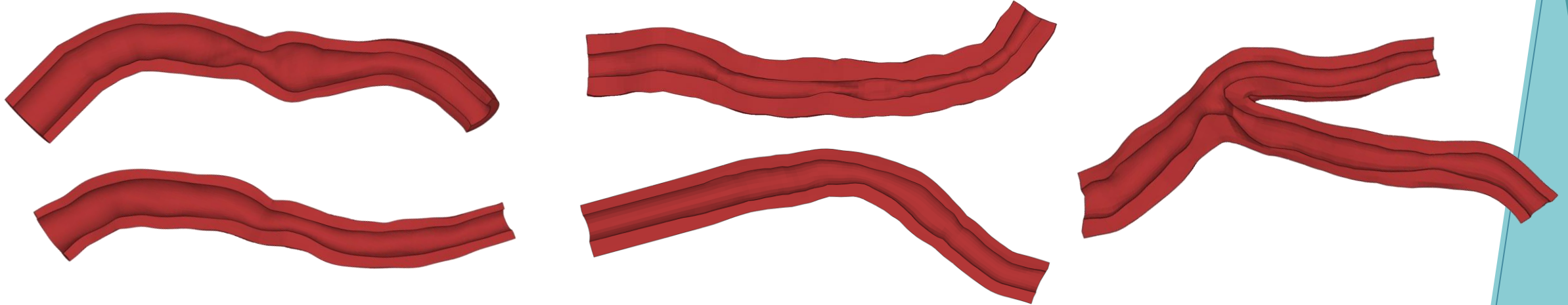
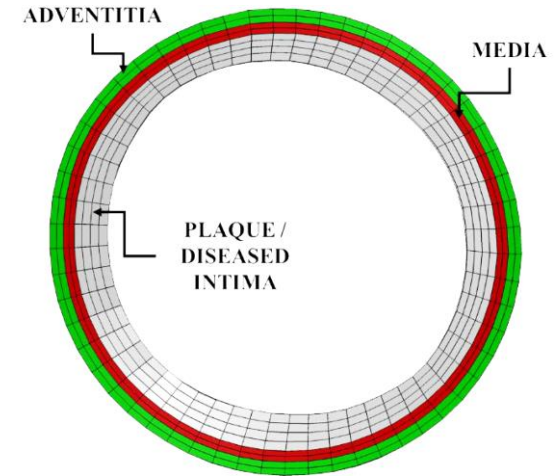


Biomechanical model  
(three layers)



$$t_{MEDIA} = \mu D_{EEL}$$

$$t_{ADVENTITIA} = \alpha D_{EEL}$$

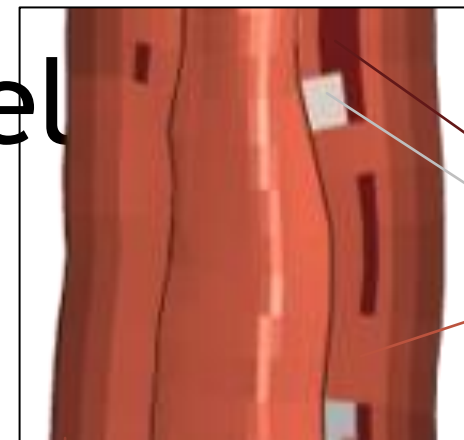


# Coronary artery model

Detectable from images  
(clouds of points)

Plaque  
components

Mechanical  
properties



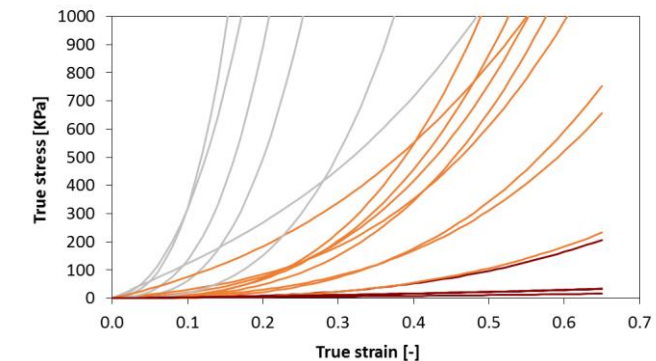
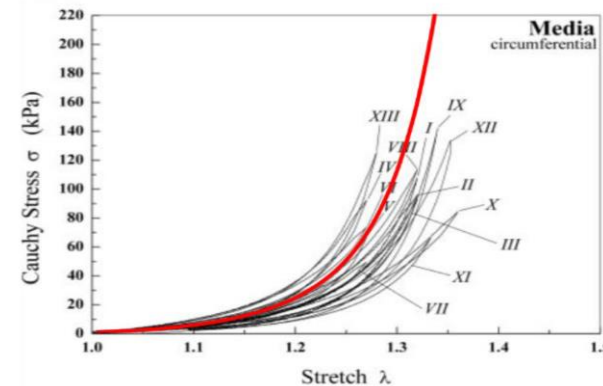
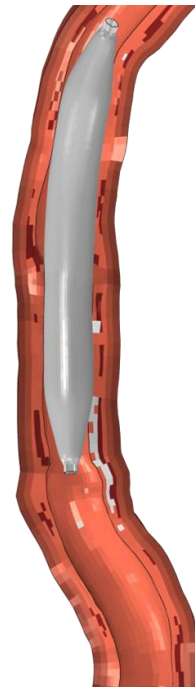
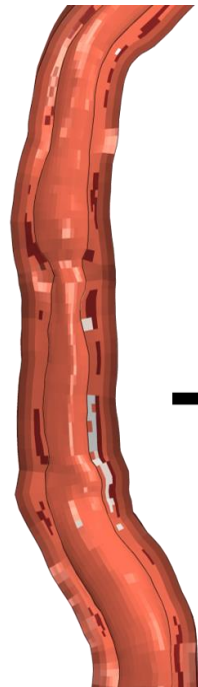
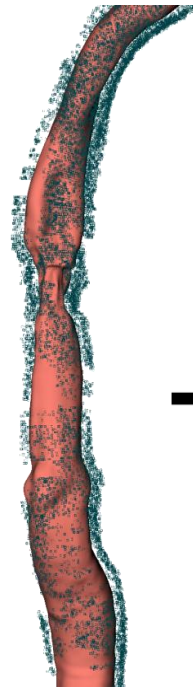
MEDIA  
ADVENTITIA

DISEASED INTIMA (plaque)

LIPIDIC PLAQUE

CALCIFIED PLAQUE

GENERIC PLAQUE (fat & fibrous-fa



- Material constitutive models
  - *in vivo* blood pressure & axial pre-stretch → nonlinear elastic behavior, properly adapted from literature
  - permanent deformations → plastic models for inelastic behavior

# Task Overview - DoA

## SubTask 5.3.2

DoA	6-18	19-41
<p>“the Deployment Module will be <b>integrated</b> in the whole platform to <b>provide input data</b> for the other modelling modules“</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Definition of <b>basic simulation steps for stenting</b> (positioning, inflation, deflation &amp; deployment)</li> <li>▪ <b>Preliminary automation</b> of the simulation steps</li> <li>▪ Definition of module <b>inputs and outputs</b></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <u>Full automation of the simulation steps and integration</u> of the “accurate” Deployment Module on the platform</li> <li>▪ <u>Development of a “simplified deployment”</u> to create inputs for other modules when the accurate deployment is <b>unfeasible</b></li> </ul>
<p>“...identification of specific zones, where the interaction between drug-eluting BVS and tissue is very pronounced (<b>high level of injury</b>) and may induce restenosis. ...<b>BVS malapposition</b>, which correlates with increased the risk of late stent thrombosis, will be assessed.”</p>	<p>Analysis of possible <b>acute endpoints</b></p>	<p>Final definition of <u><b>acute endpoints</b></u> visible on the platform:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>mimicking</b> clinical endpoints</li> <li><b>refining</b> some aspects, exploiting potentialities of in silico stenting</li> </ol>



# Deployment Module

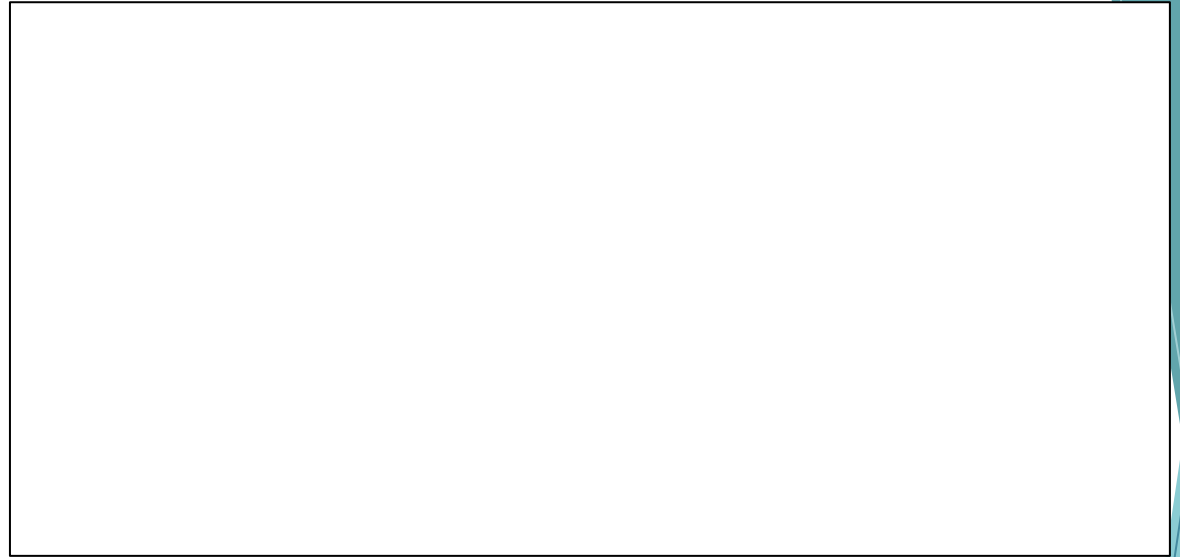
## ❑ Accurate deployment

(based on OCT **pre**, stent design & **stenting procedure**)

→ Mimicking of all clinical procedural steps  
→ stented artery, stresses & strains

## ❑ Simplified deployment

(based on OCT **post** & stent design)  
→ stented artery



# Acute Endpoints on the Platform

## Clinical

### Endpoints

Pre

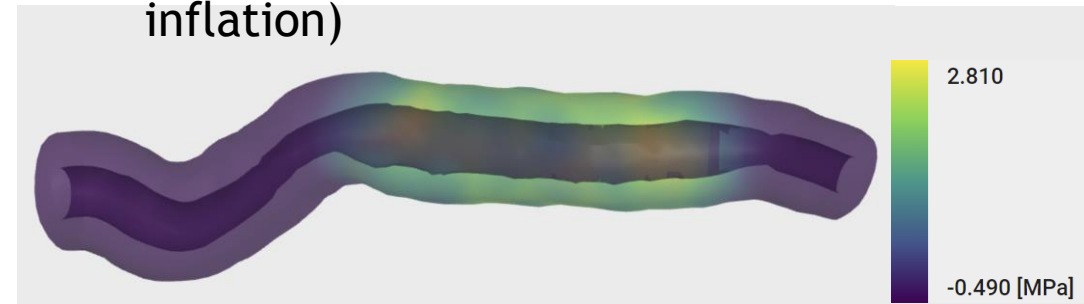
Minimum Lumen Diameter - Pre-procedural [mm]	1.43
Reference Vessel Diameter [mm]	2.25
Lesion Length [mm]	54.10
Diameter Stenosis - pre-procedural [%]	36.30

Post

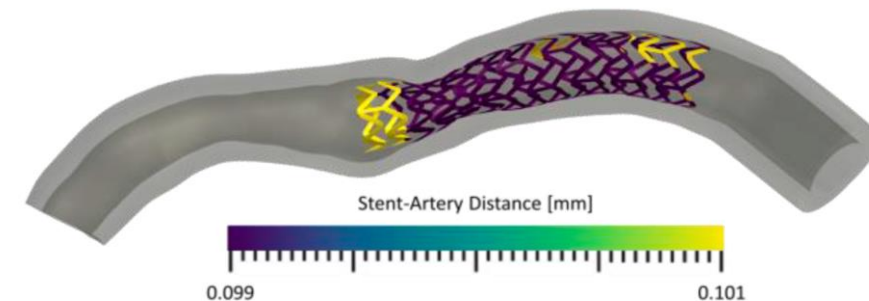
Minimum Lumen Diameter - post-procedural [mm]	2.16
Lumen Gain - post-procedural [mm]	0.73
Diameter Stenosis - post-procedural [%]	4.15
Minimum Stent Area - post-procedural [mm <sup>2</sup> ]	3.65
Eccentricity Index - post-procedural [-]	0.71
Asymmetry Index - post-procedural [-]	0.29

## Potentialities of in silico stenting

- Artery wall injury (stresses at max inflation)



- BVS malapposition (stent-artery distance)



# Task 5.3 Overview - DoA

## 5.3.2

## SubTask

DoA	6-18	19-41
“the Deployment Module will be used for the <b>in-silico simulation of drug-eluting BVS in the “virtual” patients</b> ”	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>First Scenarios</li> <li><b>Retrospective</b> patients: Absorb</li> <li><b>Perspective</b> patients: Fantom Encore</li> </ul>	Creation of a large number of “ <b>What if</b> ” and <b>comparative Scenarios</b> , investigating various aspects of stenting ( <b>later on...</b> )
The numerical predictions will be <b>verified</b> against the post-treatment retrospective and prospective <b>clinical data generated</b> by the project.	---	Definition of a <b>methodology for an effective use of in vivo data</b> (OCT slices) to verify in silico predictions ( <b>later on...</b> )



## Challenges

- To develop a **Deployment Module** to be included in an in silico pipeline for investigating both **acute** and **short/medium/long term** outcomes of stented coronary arteries

## Beyond the state of the art

- An **effective, robust and automatic** numerical framework to be used for **in silico coronary stenting in patient-specific arteries**, where all the clinical procedures (from the simple angioplasty to the complex treatment of coronary bifurcations) are modelled as combination of **few basic simulation steps** (positioning, inflation, deflation/deployment)
- An **extensive validation of the Deployment Module**, based on in vitro tests, animal studies and patient-specific data
- A **versatile tool** able to predict both the **acute behavior of stents** after implantation (clinical endpoints ) in stenotic arteries (not exclusively coronaries)
- A **mature in silico module** able to **provide inputs** for the other modules on the **InSilc platform** to foresee also short/medium/ long term response.
- A **simplified approach based on post-treatment images** to obtain suitable models of the stented artery to be used by other InSilc modules to investigate short/medium/ long term response