Morphometric analysis of cell spheroids: volume and cell migration by high-throughput (HT) image analysis

Maëlle Ouéré¹, Marine Aubert², Romain Toussaint³, Shyue-Fang Battaglia-Hsu¹, Farès Namour¹, Christo Christov^{1,3} christo.christov@univ-lorraine.fr ¹UNITE INSERM 1256 NGERE, Université de Lorraine, ²IMNC, Université Paris Sud, CNRS, UMR8165, Orsay, ³Laboratoire de Pathologie Fætoplacentaire, Maternité Régionale, CHU de Nancy

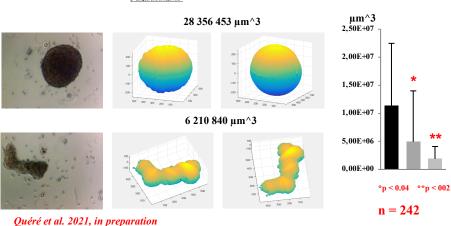
The spheroid model: biology and utility

- a standardized biologically relevant 3D cell assay to study cell proliferation, cell death, cell migration, cell-matrix, and cell-cell interactions
- HT molecular screening tests involving 100s or 1000s of spheroids impose the need for HT microscopy and HT image analysis techniques

Spheroid volumes from 2D projections independent from spheroid shape

contour subdivision into ▲ perpendicular to the central axis and volume reconstruction as a sum of half cylinders under assumed symmetry rules





The cell automaton model of out-of-spheroid glioma cell migration (48h time-lapse)

• cells have limited choices between cases of preferential (white), permitted (grey), or prohibited (black) sites to which they may (or may not) potentially move

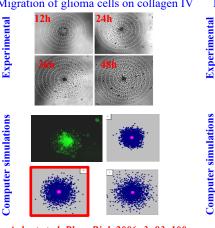








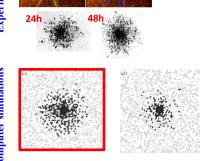
Migration of glioma cells on collagen IV



Aubert et al. Phys. Biol. 2006; 3: 93-100

Interactions between migrating glioma cells slow down migration

Migration on a sheet of confluent astrocytes



Aubert et al. J. R. Soc. Interface 2008; 5: 75-83

Interactions between migrating glioma cells and surrounding astrocytes speed up migration

Volume measurements are a useful adjunct to molecular studies