

L # 21

Cytoskeletal mechanics : - readings RDK Ch 2.2 pp. 1-15, 24-54
Ch 2.3 all

Last time: cell membrane mechanics

important concepts: bending modulus K_B , extension modulus K_e , shear modulus K_s
surface tension N

lipid bilayer with cortex (0.1 μm)	$K_B \sim 10^{-19} \text{ N m}^2$ 10^{-18}	K_e high high	$K_s \approx 0$ low	$N \approx \text{cell (leukocyte)}$ $N = 70 \text{ dyn/cm (water)}$
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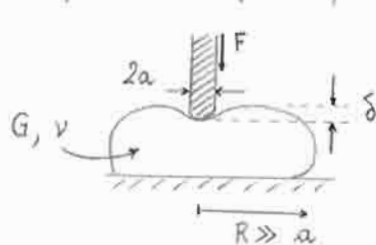
Today: - structural elements of cytoskeleton
- scaling & dimensional analysis (see Sonin on the website)
- experimental measurements of cell mechanics (examples using scaling & dimensional analysis)

Later: - microstructural models

- Structural elements :
 - actin : microfilaments
 - tubulin : microtubules
 - intermediate filaments
- } all important + sometimes

Dimensional analysis

1. identify a complete set of independent quantities



Q_0	δ				
Q_1, \dots	G, ν, F, a	\times	\times	\times	\times
units	L	$\frac{F}{L^2}$	-	F	L

2. list the dimensions of Q_i
3. choose a complete & dimensionally independent subset $Q_1, \dots, Q_k : G, F, a$
4. dimensionless forms of Q_0 :

Π_0	Π_1	Π_2
$\frac{\delta}{a}$	ν	$\frac{F}{Ga^2}$

5. rewrite :

$$\frac{\delta}{a} = f_n(G, \nu, F, a)$$

$$\frac{\delta}{a} = f_n\left(\nu, \frac{F}{Ga^2}, \cancel{G}, \cancel{a}\right)$$

dimensionless these cannot be made dimensionless \rightarrow drop them out

- scaling analysis : useful when
 - (i) exact solutions aren't needed or not warranted
 - (ii) present experimental results in generalizable form
 - (iii) minimize the number of experiments needed to completely characterize a relationship

review of governing equations:

- force balance (neglect inertia) $\frac{\partial \sigma_{ij}}{\partial x_i} = 0$ (for solid & fluid)

solid (Hookean)

fluid (Newtonian)

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- constitutive equations

$$\sigma_{ij} = \lambda \epsilon_{kk} \delta_{ij} + 2G \epsilon_{ij}$$

$$\sigma_{ij} = -p \delta_{ij} + 2\mu \dot{\epsilon}_{ij}$$

displacement u

velocity v

strain ϵ

strain rate $\dot{\epsilon}$

stress / strain : (E, ν) or (G, ν)

stress / strain rate (μ, κ)

κ : bulk compression

- energy

$$U = \int \frac{1}{2} \underline{\sigma} : \underline{\epsilon} dV$$

$$\sim E \epsilon^2 V$$

$$\dot{U} = \int \frac{1}{2} \underline{\tau} : \underline{\dot{\epsilon}} dV$$

$$\sim \mu \dot{\epsilon}^2 V$$

dissipation rate

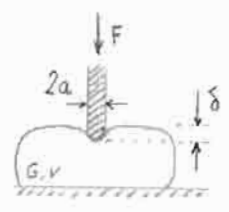
- scaling

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial x} \sim \frac{1}{L}, \quad \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \sim \frac{1}{\tau} (\sim \omega), \quad \int f dx \sim fL, \quad \int f dt \sim f\tau$$

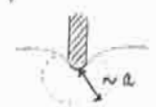
ignore all $O(1)$ dimensionless constants ($\pi, 2 \dots$)

Experimental measurements

① cell indentation



scaling force balance $F \sim \tau a^2 \sim G \epsilon a^2 \sim G \frac{\delta}{a} a^2 \sim G \delta a$



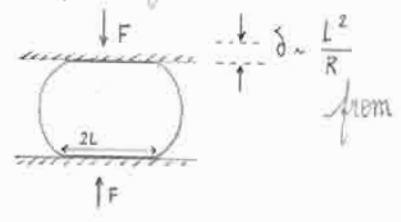
the exact solution would be $F = 8 G \delta a$

energy: relate internal energy to work done by external force

$$G \epsilon^2 a^3 \sim G a^3 \left(\frac{\delta}{a}\right)^2 \sim F \delta$$

hence $F \sim G \delta a$

cell squashing



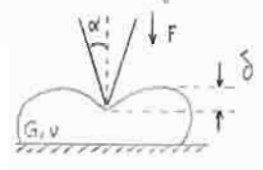
energy $F \delta \sim G \left(\frac{\delta}{L}\right)^2 L^3$

$$F \sim G \delta L \sim G \frac{L^3}{R} \quad \text{hence } L \sim \left(\frac{FR}{G}\right)^{1/3}$$

$$\delta \sim \left(\frac{FR}{G}\right)^{2/3} \cdot \frac{1}{R} \sim R^{-1/3} \left(\frac{F}{G}\right)^{2/3}$$

Hertz theory $F \sim \delta^{3/2} G R^{1/2}$

indentation by AFM probe



the theory would give us $F = \frac{4}{3} \cdot \frac{E}{1-\nu^2} \delta^{3/2} R^{1/2}$

dimensional analysis

$$F = fcn(\delta, G, \nu, \alpha)$$

$$\frac{F}{G \delta^2} = fcn(\nu, \alpha) \quad \text{or}$$

$$F \sim G \delta^2 fcn(\nu, \alpha)$$

exact: $F = \frac{4}{\pi} G \delta^2 \frac{\tan \alpha}{1-\nu}$