**Ph.D** Thesis



# Moving Computational Tools for Aortic Disease from the Bench to the Bedside

#### Rodrigo M. Romarowski

Computational Mechanics and Advanced Materials Group University of Pavia, Italy 12/03/2018





- Introduction to Aortic Disease
- Computational Hemodynamics
  - CFD in the Thoracic Aorta
  - Treatment of Boundary Conditions
- TEVAR
  - Predicting post-TEVAR hemodynamics
  - The ascending aorta
- Other project: Hemodynamics and ageing
- Conclusions

#### **Thoracic Aortic Disease**



#### **BLOOD DYNAMICS ARE CONSIDERABLY AFFECTED**

# **Ingredients for a successful CFD**





Equations/discretization (incompressible NS)

- UnsteadyStabilization

**Finite Element** 

Method



- Prospective/retrospective
  - Invasive/non-invasive
    - High-quality/noisy
    - Cheap/Expensive
      - Safe?

# Boundary conditions (Dirichlet/Neumann/Robin)



Use of computational fluid dynamics studies in predicting aneurysmal degeneration of acute type JVS 2015 B aortic dissections

by Mills et al.<sup>22</sup> Zero pressure outlet conditions were assumed for the innominate, left common carotid, left subclavian, and bilateral iliac arteries.

On the Use of *In Vivo* Measured Flow Rates as Boundary Conditions for Image-Based Hemodynamic Models of the Human Aorta: Implications for Indicators of Abnormal Flow ABME 2012

> In this study, it is also observed that the BC treatment scheme of imposing the Neumann stress-free condition at every outlet section (S3) does lead to physiologically unrealistic results. Differences between





Flow

3WK

<7-1>

# Available data for parameter estimation

On the choice of outlet boundary conditions for patient-specific analysis of aortic flow using computational fluid dynamics

J. Biomec 2017



# Cuff pressure

3WK



# **CONSTRAINED OPTIMIZATION (1987)**





### **3 Element Windkessel Parameter estimation**

# **CONSTRAINED OPTIMIZATION (2018)**



# **Results against literature** Ś 6 BC2 BC1 BC3

#### **Results against literature**

ERROR = Simulated outflow vs. expected outflow

# Flow integral error %



Submited Int J Num Meth Biom Eng Dec 2017

#### iCardioCloud experience



# 21 Patients: data assimilation challenge

# **Take Home Messages**





- Patient-specific MAKES the difference
- Lumped parameter model is a great trade-off
- Assumptions in input DATA are not bad
- Accomodate noisy and incomplete datasets



### **TEVAR complications**

# Endoleak: sealing is not perfect







# **Predicting post-TEVAR hemodynamics**





### **Predicting post-TEVAR hemodynamics**





# **Predicting post-TEVAR hemodynamics**



# **Take Home Messages**





- Detailed CFD mesh reconstruction
- Proximal and distal apposition well predicted
- Post-operative hemodynamics well represented
- <u>Limitation</u>: not yet able to predict post-op boundary conditions



JVS 2018

From the Society for Vascular Surgery

# A systematic review of primary endovascular repair of the ascending aorta

# The ascending aorta represents the final frontier of endovascular therapy. Use of endovascular stent grafts

ascending aortic diseases are being successfully treated by endovascular technologies. For optimal outcomes, patient selection is critical to align aortic anatomy with the limited device sizing options, and it should be reserved for patients at high surgical risk. (J Vasc Surg 2018;67:332-42.)

### **Case study**



• 88yo

Not
suitable for
Open
Surgery



# **Device selection and deployment**



Stainless Steel + Dacron

Nitinol + Dacron 1 bare ring (proximal)



Nitinol + Dacron 2 bare rings

#### **Results and Conclusions**

Distance (mm) 2 4 6 8

B

А

С

Virtual TEVAR can help surgery planning in the **Ascending Aorta** 



# **Other: Ageing and hemodynamics**

Submitted JACC Feb 2018



What is the impact of ageing in hemodynamics?







- Strong Engineering-Medical Collaboration
- <u>Systematically</u> performed CFD in the aorta
- Integrate predictive tools for TEVAR and decisionmaking
- Numerical results with clinical impact