Multiscale Model of Human Pathogen Growth on Fresh Produce

Alexander Warning and Ashim K Datta 9 October 2014

COMSOL CONFERENCE 2014 BOSTON

Contents

- Problem Formulation/Schematic
- Geometry Acquisition from µCT
- Numerical Implementation
- Governing Equations
- Validation
- Results
- Future Work

Problem Formulation/Schematic



Problem Formulation/Schematic





E. coli





Geometry Acquisition from µCT





Numerical Implementation



Governing Equations

Carbon (Glucose), Nitrogen (Ammonium), Oxygen, and Chemoattractant Transport $\frac{\partial C_i}{\partial t} = D_{i,w}(X,T)\nabla^2 C_i + r_{i,X}$

Nutrient Consumption

$$r_{i,X} = Y_{i/X} \mu X$$

$$X = \frac{\sum m}{V_{REV}}$$

Growth Rate

$$\mu^j = \mu^j_{max} {\scriptstyle\prod\limits_i} \phi_i \qquad \phi_i = rac{C_i}{K_i(T)+C_i} \qquad rac{av^j}{dt} = \mu^j v^j$$

Quorum Sensing

$$rac{d[C]_{QS}}{dt} = \kappa_{QS}[C]_{r}$$

Governing Equations

Drift Velocity

$$\vec{v}_d = \frac{300}{\sqrt{2}} \frac{\nabla C_{Glu}}{C_{Glu}} + \frac{300}{\sqrt{2}} \frac{\nabla C_{CA}}{C_{CA}}$$

Run and Tumble

$$\vec{v}_{diffusion} = 1200 \left(\cos\theta, \sin\theta\right)$$

Displacement

$$\vec{d} = 1200 \frac{\vec{v}_{diffusion} + \vec{v}_{drift}}{\|\vec{v}_{diffusion} + \vec{v}_{drift}\|} \Delta t$$

Validation



Validation

E. coli O157:H7





Results





Results, contd.



Conclusions/Challenges

- Geometry has limited effect on colony morphology

 Through a mechanistic model, most food safety growth models can be reduced to a single individual based model instead of needing a database

Internalization and dispersion is only understandable through an IbM that incorporates nutrient and chemoattractant concentration fields

References

- Solomon, Ethan B., Hoan-Jen Pang, and Karl R. Matthews.
 "Persistence of Escherichia coli O157: H7 on lettuce plants following spray irrigation with contaminated water." *Journal of food protection* 66.12 (2003): 2198-2202.
 - 2. Koseki, Shigenobu, and Seiichiro Isobe. "Prediction of pathogen growth on iceberg lettuce under real temperature history during distribution from farm to table." *International Journal of Food Microbiology* 104.3 (2005): 239-248.
 - 3. Brandl, M. T., and R. Amundson. "Leaf age as a risk factor in contamination of lettuce with Escherichia coli O157: H7 and Salmonella enterica." *Applied and environmental microbiology* 74.8 (2008): 2298-2306.
 - 4. Mercier, Julien, and S. E. Lindow. "Role of leaf surface sugars in colonization of plants by bacterial epiphytes." *Applied and Environmental Microbiology* 66.1 (2000): 369-374.

Questions?