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# A Review of Physiological Simulation Models of Intracranial Pressure Dynamics

Wayne W. Wakeland Portland State University, wakeland@pdx.edu

Brahm Goldstein Robert Wood Johnson Medical School

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Corresponding Author: Dr. wayne wakeland, Ph.D.

Corresponding Author's Institution: Portland State University

First Author: wayne wakeland, Ph.D.

Order of Authors: wayne wakeland, Ph.D.; Brahm Goldstein, MD, MCR

Abstract: This paper reviews the literature regarding the development, testing, and application of physiologybased computer simulation models of intracranial pressure dynamics. Detailed comparative information is provided in tabular format about the model variables and logic, any data collected, model testing and validation methods, and model results. Several syntheses are given that summarize the research carried out by influential research teams and researchers, review important findings, and discuss the methods employed, limitations, and opportunities for further research.

In 1973, Wayne Wakeland was granted a B.S. in Engineering and Master of Engineering in from Harvey Mudd College. In 1977 he was granted a Ph.D. in Systems Science from Portland State University. In 1978, Wayne became an adjunct member of the core faculty of the Systems Science Ph.D. program, and began teaching a sequence of modeling and simulation courses. In 2000, he became an Associate Professor of Systems Science. Wayne has also held managerial positions in information systems and manufacturing at several high technology firms in Portland.

Brahm Goldstein attended medical school at the SUNY Health Sciences Center at Syracuse, NY, and did his residency at UCLA in Pediatrics, with additional training at Boston Children's Hospital and Massachusetts General Hospital. From 1986 to 1989 he was an Instructor at the Harvard Medical School. From 1989 to 1994 he was an Assistant Professor at the University of Rochester School of Medicine & Dentistry; and from 1994 to 2006, he was an Associate Professor at Oregon Health Sciences University, where he also served as Director of Medical Services for the Doernbecher Children's Hospital. He is currently Director, Clinical Research, Biopharmaceuticals at Novo Nordisk, Inc. in Princeton, NJ, and affiliated with the Robert Wood Johnson Medical School.

None declared

ICP Modeling Review Paper

# **A review of physiological simulation models of intracranial pressure dynamics**

# **Abstract**

This paper reviews the literature regarding the development, testing, and application of physiologybased computer simulation models of intracranial pressure dynamics. Detailed comparative information is provided in tabular format about the model variables and logic, any data collected, model testing and validation methods, and model results. Several syntheses are given that summarize the research carried out by influential research teams and researchers, review important findings, and discuss the methods employed, limitations, and opportunities for further research.

**Key words**: ICP, computer model, intracranial hypertension

# **Article Outline**

Introduction

Methods

Results

Sources and timeline

Detailed findings in tabular format

## Discussion

Seminal works and key investigators

Key findings

Findings regarding CSF production and absorption

Findings regarding the relationship between volume and pressure

Findings regarding cerebral autoregulation (CAR) Other findings Primary computer modeling methods reported Limitations of current computer models Future directions Summary

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#### **INTRODUCTION**

Elevated intracranial pressure (ICP) is a complex and clinically important pathophysiologic state that is most commonly due to severe traumatic brain injury (TBI), brain tumors, or obstruction of cerebral spinal fluid (CSF) drainage. Current treatment depends on the underlying disease and includes surgical removal of mass lesions, CSF drainage, administration of hypertonic medications, and mild hyperventilation. While patients are often responsive to these therapies, in non-surgical causes of elevated ICP it is unclear which may be most effective. Additionally, it is clear that in some cases repeated uses of the same therapy engenders a tolerance like state where an initial good response becomes less and less effective over time. Thus, there remains a significant need to further discover and evaluate treatments for elevated ICP.

While animal models were the primary historical tool to find ways to improve treatment, researchers have also developed a wide variety of mathematical models in order to attempt to increase understanding of the complex mechanisms that drive ICP dynamics. As computer technology advanced, these models became the basis for computer simulations. The earliest such models appeared in the literature some 35 years ago. Since then many teams of researchers have

developed a wide variety of mathematical and computer simulation models of ICP dynamics that attempt to reflect to varying degrees the underlying physiology and pathophysiology of elevated ICP. Some of these models are complex and comprehensive while others are simple and focused on one particular aspect, such as cerebrospinal fluid or auto regulatory mechanisms. Some models treat fluid flows and volumes as primary variable, while others focus directly on the pressure gradients. Some models are designed with clinical applications in mind, while others are conceptual or theoretical in nature.

 problem may benefit from an overview exposure to the work of other researchers. Despite this rich history of computer simulation models related to ICP, this literature has never been comprehensively reviewed. For new researchers entering the field, an authoritative review would be invaluable, and experienced researchers who are focusing on a particular sub-

This review paper is organized as follows. The methods section describes the process for selecting the articles to be included in the review. The results section includes a summary regarding where and when the selected articles were published, followed by a detailed "guide to the literature" in the form of five detailed tables. **Table II** summarizes the major insights and contributions of each article, organized by first author, and showing co-authors. **Table II** also lists some of the other authors cited in each paper, along with the total number of citations given, since this information is not provided in the bibliography and may help readers to select articles for further investigation. **Table III** provides general information regarding whether the model is conceptual or clinically focused, the phenomena investigated, and what experimental data is provided. **Table IV** gives details of the various models, such as the types of diagrams provided, the number of state variables, time and bandwidth considerations, and key assumptions and logic. **Table V** describes model outputs, model testing, and results. For selected articles, **Table VI**  provides additional notes and comments. The discussion section provides a synthesis that includes

an abbreviated history regarding the work done by key research teams, a summary of key findings, and an overview of the methods used to support them. The discussion then shifts to the limitations of the research to-date, current challenges faced by researchers, and promising future directions. The article closes with a summary.

#### **METHODS**

The selection of articles combined the results from computerized searches with a previously manually developed d bibliography. The computerized searches utilized both Medline and Compendex (Engineering Village) to assure that articles published in both the medical literature and the engineering literature were located. The primary keywords utilized were "intracranial pressure" & "simulation," and "intracranial pressure" & "mathematical model." Many other keywords were experimented with such as "theoretical model," but these did not yield additional relevant articles. Articles prior to 1972 were excluded since they pre-date the widespread application of digital computer simulation. Conference papers were generally not included, except as noted. 106 articles were initially reviewed in detail.

The pearling process involved the exclusion of articles for the following reasons (some articles were excluded for multiple reasons): 11 were focused on head impact (finite element models of brain tissue mechanics); 5 were focused on aneurism or edema; 17 were statistical or used a black box mode rather than physiological; 15 were not actually computer simulation or no model details were provided; 13 did not address ICP specifically; 4 were focused on CSF shunt design; 4 were actually focused on hydrocephalus; and 11 were focused on non-invasive measurement/monitoring. 64 articles remained after these exclusions. Review of the abstracts reduced the number of articles to 50, of which 40 were deemed to be highly relevant.

The authors had previously and manually accumulated a bibliography on ICP that included 310 articles, of which 210 had been acquired. This bibliography was much broader than just

simulation-oriented papers, and had been gleaned in large part from the citations in key articles collected early on. Scanning these 210 articles yielded 31 highly relevant articles on simulation.

Synthesizing the computer search results and the manual ICP simulation bibliography yielded 56 highly relevant works that were reviewed in detail. Most of these are journal articles, but two important dissertations are included, and two articles introducing key concepts were published at International Symposia focused directly on ICP. Three articles were later deleted when they were reviewed more closely, and six articles were subsequently added that were published during 2005-2007 (after the initial literature search had been completed), resulting a total of 59 items from 30 sources.

Each article was reviewed, and information was compiled into several tables to allow for easy comparison of the data, models, assumptions, methods, and findings reported in the articles reviewed.

#### **RESULTS**

#### **Sources and timeline**

**Table I** shows where the items were published, and **Figure 1** indicates when they were published. A strong upward trend is shown, until the year 2000. The volume of articles on this topic appears to have declined somewhat since then.

<Insert Table I and Figure 1 about here>

#### **Detailed findings in tabular format**

**Table II** is organized chronologically by major research team, and provides the year published, lead author, co-authors, the number of references given, selected authors cited, and a summary of the main thrust of each article. **Table III** provides information on the focus of model (conceptual, clinical, etc.), the phenomenon studied (e.g., TBI, pressure/volume [P/V] relationship), and experimental data provided (e.g. ICP, PaCO2, blood flow, pressure volume index [PVI]). **Table IV** provides model details, such as the types of diagrams provided (e.g., hydraulic, electrical analog, block diagram), information about state variables, time and bandwidth, key assumptions/logic/constraints, use PVI, and the number and types of autoregulation. **Table V**  describes the model outputs (e.g., graphs, tables, steady state or transient results, etc.), how the model was validated (e.g., versus experimental/clinical data, or versus data/models in the literature, test simulations, sensitivity analysis, runs with and without cerebral autoregulation [AR], etc.), and what sorts of experimental simulations were run (e. g., treatment options or experimental protocols). **Table VI** provides additional notes and comments for selected articles.

< Insert Tables II – VI about here>

#### **DISCUSSION**

The following discussion synthesizes the information provided in Tables II-VI, including seminal works and key investigators, important findings, limitations of current models, and promising future directions.

# **Seminal works and key investigators**

Marmarou's 1973 dissertation [1] and 1978 journal article [2] developed a mathematical model of CSF pressure dynamics, expressed as an electrical analog, which was validated using experiments conducted on cats. He concluded that using a single compartment for CSF is appropriate because there was not a significant pressure gradient between the ventricles and subarachnoid space. CSF formation rate was treated as constant, and CSF absorption was a

function of the difference between the CSF pressure and the dural sinus pressure. The resistance associated with this absorption was shown to be constant (not to vary with pressure, as might have been thought). Thus, the response of the system to a rapid injection or withdrawal of CSF fluid is a rapid increase or decrease in pressure followed by a slow return to the baseline pressure. The response curve is fundamentally exponential in nature.

Marmarou's major contribution in this work is the definition of the pressure volume index (PVI) as the amount of fluid which, when rapidly added, causes the pressure to increase by a factor of 10. In cats with normal physiology this was reported to vary from 0.5 to 1.4 mL. The value is, of course, much larger for humans.

Several non-clinical experiments were conducted using an animal model and compared with the theoretical model. These consisted of a series of small, rapid injections of varying amounts of saline small, somewhat less rapid removals of CSF in various amounts; and a stair-step sequence of saline infusions that simulated changes in the CSF formation rate. These tests all supported the basic formulation of the theoretical model, including the PVI index.

Marmarou also studied the reliability of using a single injection to measure compliance and found that a single injection could be used to estimate the compliance factor  $(K)$  to within +10%, whereas the resistance to absorption could not be accurately estimated from a single injection  $(K =$ PVI/P).

In 1987, Hoffman [8] provided the first comprehensive intracranial simulation model that included cerebral blood volumes and flow rates, CSF volume and flow rates, baroreceptor-based flow regulation, and regional blood flow. Some relationships were portrayed graphically, rather than functionally. Hoffman was also the first researcher working in this field to demonstrate the use of optimization to estimate unknown parameter values.

Ursino (1988-2003) has been the most prolific contributor to the ICP modeling literature, with 19 articles from his research team included in this review.

Ursino [14] described an intracranial simulation model that focused on the shape and pulse amplitude of the ICP waveform. Application and validation was described in subsequent studies [15][16]. Ursino and Di Giammarco [17] describe a major extension to the earlier model, with considerable model detail and a stability analysis. Other investigations that year [18][19] focused on cerebral auto-regulation and reproducing clinically observed oscillations in the ICP waveform such as Lundberg's A and B waves.

Ursino et al [20] described a complex ICP model that had several blood compartments. They also determined and provided basal values for all important model parameters, many of which were derived experimentally. The model included many variable conductances and compliances; and auto-regulation was modeled in detail, including pressure differentials due to muscle tension, vessel wall tension, and viscous forces. The model was fitted to prospectively collected subject-specific data including the ICP response to PVI testing (injection and removal of CSF). The reported fit was very good.

Ursino and Lodi [22] offered a simplified model based on the team's experience with more complex models. The report also discussed the feedback loops in the model and the stability characteristics of the equations. A companion study applied the simpler model to the same prospective data used to fit the more complex model. The simple model worked nearly as well as the more complex model. Additional validation was reported by Lodi et al [24] based on prospective data from a  $CO<sub>2</sub>$  challenge protocol. Also that year, the model was extended to permit comparison with transcranial Doppler ultrasound (TCD) data [25]. Lodi and Ursino [27] reported on using the model to study cerebral arterial vasospasm, and Russo et al [28] reported on using the model to help explain clinical experiments to measure cerebrovascular reserve.

Ursino et al [29] analyzed the changes in cerebral hemodynamics and ICP evoked by challenges in arterial blood pressure (ABP) and PaCO<sub>2</sub>. These tests used their simpler model aimed at routine clinical investigations. The model was validated by comparing model results (flow in the middle cerebral artery was assumed in the model to be 1/3 of the total cerebral blood flow) with blood velocity measured in the middle cerebral artery via TCD during the challenges. Six model parameters were estimated statistically via least squares fit, including CSF resistance, intracranial elastance, AR gain, and  $CO<sub>2</sub>$  reactivity (gain, time constant, and normal set point). A key difference between this model and some of the earlier models was that CSF production was not held constant; rather, it was modulated by variations in CBF.

One of the physiologic challenge protocols that provided the dynamic data needed to estimate model parameters was gradual hyperventilation followed by a period of hypoventilation, and then a return to baseline. A second physiologic challenge utilized a norepinephrine perfusion to change ABP. Once a new ABP was achieved, the PaCO<sub>2</sub> challenge was repeated. 44 tracings from 13 patients were obtained and analyzed. Results were quite good in most cases, with the standard deviation of the residuals for ∆ICP and ∆ middle cerebral artery blood flow velocity (∆VMCA) being on the order of the measurement error. Any exceptions to these generally favorable results are discussed in detail.

Ursino et al [30] described yet another variation of the model that looked at the microcirculation and was validated using prospective clinical data regarding response of patients with internal carotid artery  $(ICA)$  occlusion to  $CO<sub>2</sub>$  challenges. The so-called cerebral blood flow "steal" phenomenon was demonstrated by the model.

Ursino and Magosso [31] extended the AR aspects of their model to include a third local AR mechanism--tissue hypoxia. The model was used to study how these three AR responses interact. Initially, only the  $PaO<sub>2</sub>$  response was allowed to act. The resulting vasodilation was

insufficient to maintain flow. An additional mechanism was then enabled, still without the  $PaCO<sub>2</sub>$ response. Thus, four gains were estimated, two for each of the arterial compartments. The two mechanisms together were able to cause sufficient vasodilation, such that the model results matched experimental data where  $PaCO<sub>2</sub>$  has been held constant. Finally, the  $CO<sub>2</sub>$  response was activated and various model experiments were run. The first set computed CO2 reactivity as a function of PaO<sub>2</sub>, as it varied from hypoxia to hyperoxia. The model reproduced previously published data from rabbit studies showing highly non-linear behavior. This was with ICP held constant (open skull). More runs were made with closed skull conditions. The Lundberg A wave was reproduced, as were long period oscillations. Hemodilution was then studied, with favorable results.

Ursino and Guilioni [32] reported on the use of their mathematical model to develop a CAR index based on the pulse morphology of the TCD velocity waveform that was both sensitive and selective.

Another highly influential team, lead by M. Czosnyka (1992-2001), with J. Pickard and S. Piechnik, published seven of the articles included in this review. Seminal papers in 1993 [34] and 1997 [36] presented an ICP model that treated the blood volume as two compartments (arterial blood storage [a] and capillary plus venous blood storage [v]), with CSF storage [c] as a third compartment. These three volumes were constrained to add up to a fixed volume per the Monro Kellie doctrine. CSF was modeled per Marmarou. The model was shown as an electrical circuit analog, and differential equations were provided for each of the three pressures Pa, Pv, and Pi (ICP). In 2001, Piechnik, the principal modeler on the team, published his dissertation [39], which provided a detailed review of the literature on intracranial physiology and models in additional to several chapters organized as independent reports. Our current review is intended to complement that excellent review.

The Czosnyka team cites reports describing Ursino's highly complex ICP model. Although the most influential model from the Czosnyka team is attractive for its simplicity and resulting insights, Piechnik's work also included several more complex models to address phenomena such as cerebral blood flow "steal" where asymmetric malformations are not properly compensated for via the Circle of Willis [37]. He also created a physical model to study the appropriateness of the "Starling resistor" model for the bridging veins [38]. This research showed specifically how the Starling resistor model is inappropriate when ICP is less than the saggital sinus pressure, and provided an alternative model. Much of this team's primary work focused on ICP monitoring and hydrocephalus, and therefore was not included in this review.

body's blood. The final highly productive ICP modeling team, led by W. Lakin, entered the field in 1995 with a strong mathematical focus. Nine of this group's articles are included in this review. Their approach emphasized mathematical approaches to model simplification and steady state initialization. They reference the work by Marmarou, Karni, and Czosnyka, but, curiously, did not reference Ursino until very recently (2005). One very ambitious contribution from this team was a 16-compartment "whole body" model (Lakin et al [45]) that modeled the changes in total intracranial volume rather than invoking the Monroe-Kellie hypothesis. This model was validated by simulating infusion tests and catastrophic events such as the loss of a large fraction of the

In 2005, Stevens et al [46] reported on using a simplified version of their 2003 model to study ICP in microgravity conditions (it remained "normal"). The primary method was steady state analysis. Two Stevens et al [47] reported on a further simplified model applied to idiopathic intracranial hypertension (IIH). Stability analysis was performed regarding events that could trigger the transition from a steady state with normal ICP to one with elevated ICP. Stevens et al [48]

added a Starling-like resistor to better model the transverse sinus. The model was calibrated such that it perfectly fit the data for three subjects.

Two other very recent papers deserve mention. Gaohua [58] provided an ambitious whole body model focused on the use of hypothermia to treat elevated ICP. Much model detail was provided regarding the equations and parameters, along with some validation tests and a demonstration of using a controller to quickly bring a simulated patient to a target ICP value using hypothermia. Hu et al [59] documented their ambitious work that combined simulation (drawing heavily on Ursino), parameter identification, and intracranial state estimation using extended Kalman filters. The use of these dynamic filters reduced model fit error significantly.

# **Key findings**

Key findings are grouped as follows: CSF production and absorption, Relationship between pressure and volume, Cerebral autoregulation, and Other findings.

#### *CSF production and absorption*

Marmarou [1][2] supported with animal models the use of a constant CSF formation rate and a constant CSF uptake resistance in simulation models. The resulting graphs for how the system returns to steady state when perturbed are exponential in shape.

Eijndhoven [5] argued that the CSF formation rate is not constant, but based on the pressure differential. Ahearn et al [7] studied this question, but did not provide a conclusive answer supported with empirical data. Hoffman [8] suggested that the CSF formation rate is a function of blood flow volume, not pressure differential.

Ursino et al [29] modeled the CSF production rate as being proportional to the differential between intracranial arterial and capillary pressure. They also reported that the estimated CSF outflow resistance in their study was significantly elevated from basal values in all but one patient, supporting the general belief that impaired CSF uptake is an important contributor to elevated ICP in a large fraction patients with severe TBI.

#### *Relationship between pressure and volume*

Marmarou [1][2] showed that an exponential equation for the intracranial pressure/volume relationship that features a pressure volume index (PVI, the amount of added fluid that increases pressure by a factor of ten from baseline) is a practical way to model the relationship between volume and pressure. Marmarou also determined that a single mock CSF injection can be used to determine the value of PVI.

Chopp [4] introduced the use of a "Starling" resistor formulation and used the resulting model to clarify the efficacy and meaning of Marmarou's PVI test. Another alternative to PVI is a logistic function (Kadas et al [41], Lakin et al [42][45]). Stevens and Lakin [43] employed an empirical and highly nonlinear P/V curve.

Piechnk et al [38] used a physical apparatus and mathematical model to study cerebral venous outflow. He found that the Starling resistor model did not perform well, and provided an alternative. Cirovic et al [56] provided a new volume-pressure test that better reproduced classic results from Chopp[4], and showed that the state of CAR does *not* have a dominant effect as might be expected.

# *Cerebral autoregulation (CAR)*

Zagzoule and Marc-Vergnes [6] modeled cerebral blood circulation in 34 segments to study how much vasodilation (via CAR) is needed to maintain flow when ABP is lowered. Ursino [16] reported model results with and without intact CAR. Ursino [18] modeled five distinct CAR mechanisms in the rat (two chemical, one mygenic, and two neurogenic). Czosnyka et al [33]

defined a measure termed "state of autoregulation" (SA). Kadas et al [41] modeled CAR as an instantaneous change in vascular resistance.

Ursino et al [30] considered the CAR response to changes in  $PaCO<sub>2</sub>$  in addition to the AR response to changes in cerebral blood flow. The two control signals could reinforce the response, or the two signals could modulate each other in some fashion. CAR gain varied from 0.2 (severely impaired) to 1.5 (normal). The authors reported that in some patients CAR was normal, whereas it was below normal in others. This is discussed in terms of the static AR index, sARI (defined as % change in CVR divided by % change in cerebral perfusion pressure [CPP]). AR gain and sARI were found to be highly correlated. The  $CO<sub>2</sub>$  reactivity index (% change in VMCA/change in  $PaCO<sub>2</sub>$ ) is particularly interesting. The authors show that this index is not representative of the "true" CO2 reactivity because it depends strongly on CPP. By contrast, the gain associated with  $CO<sub>2</sub>$  reactivity,  $GCO<sub>2</sub>$ , is quite independent of CPP. The reduced compensatory response to  $CO<sub>2</sub>$ during hypotension is reflected in their model due to their inclusion of the  $CO<sub>2</sub>$  component of the CAR response.

A revised model reported by Ursino and Magosso [31] featured three CAR control mechanisms, where the smooth muscle state was adjusted separately for the arteries and the arterioles. As with their previous models, each section of control logic was characterized by a gain parameter and a time constant. An attenuation factor that depended on CBF mediated the  $CO<sub>2</sub>$ reaction since it normally works to contract rather than dilate the vessels—an effect that is attenuated when CBF is substantially compromised. The three control signals were then added and passed through an S-shaped function that implements the asymmetric physiological limits to the smooth muscle response. Venous  $O_2$  concentration was computed by subtracting from the arterial  $O_2$  concentration the brain  $O_2$  consumption rate divided by the flow rate. Brain  $O_2$  consumption rate was constant for the reported model experiments.  $PaO<sub>2</sub>$  concentration was computed using

parameters and formulae from the literature. The time constant for the  $PaO<sub>2</sub>$  response was estimated to be 20 s. by assuming that the mechanism works via vasodilatory factors such as adenosine that metabolize in approximately one minute. Ursino and Guilioni [32] demonstrated a sensitive and specific CAR index based on pulse morphology.

#### *Other findings*

Rekate [12] failed to find support for a hypothesis regarding brain "turgor" as a compliance element.

Several researchers (Yu et al [40], Ursino and Lodi [22], Ursino et al [23], Czosnyka et al [33], Stevens et al [47]) found that simple models were often nearly as effective as complex models and were probably more useful because they are easier to understand and ran much faster. Yu specifically suggested treating slowly changing variable as constants.

Lodi et al [24] found support for clinical guidelines to maintain  $CPP > 70$  mmHg. Ursino et al [25], and Ursino and Guilioni [32] used models to help develop non-invasive estimates of ICP and the status of CAR based on shape of the transcranial Doppler (TCD) waveform and other data. Lodi and Ursino [27] showed that TCD measurements alone were not a reliable indicator of arterial vasospasm.

Ursino and Belardinelli [19] and Czosnyka et al [35] reproduced and explained the mechanisms behind Lundberg's A and B waves seen in the clinical environment. Ursino et al [30] and Piechnik et al [37] created models that demonstrate the "steal" phenomena (regarding compensatory response between the left and right hemispheres). Stevens et al [46] showed that ICP was not significantly impacted by microgravity.

# **Primary computer modeling methods reported**

**Table V** described model outputs, model testing, and results. In most cases, the primary methods used to establish the findings discussed above included the development and solution of systems of ordinary differential equations (ODEs). In some cases, a set of simultaneous equations were solved instead of or in addition to ODEs.

between the model-calculated ICP vs. the actual data. This was first demonstrated by Hoffman [8].<br>Ursino et al [20][23][24] estimated four parameters in order to create patient-specific models for 18 Another important method involved some form of parameter estimation (sometimes called model identification), where parameters are adjusted (optimized) in order to minimize the error subjects with very good results, including classification of the patient's CAR status. Ursino et al [29] estimated six parameters to identify patient specific models, with excellent results.

Steady state analysis was first employed in the ICP simulation domain by Karni et al [41]. Related to this, stability analysis and state transition analysis were used by Ursino and Di Giammarco [17], Ursino and Lodi [22], and Stevens et al [48] to better understand normal versus pathophysiological states, and what triggers the shifts between these states.

Hu et al [59] reported that the addition of a nonlinear filtering method to improve the estimation of hidden state variables in the model dramatically reduces model fit error.

# **Limitations of Current Computer Models**

In our opinion, the most significant limitation is that virtually no tangible clinical impact has been reported, due in part to the fact that the models are not intuitive, are very complex, and the results are not sufficiently relevant and useful to garner the attention of clinicians.

A related challenge is the limited availability of high quality, annotated, prospective clinical data that is needed to fuel progress in the ICP dynamic modeling field. Some data has been reported, but these data are generally not shared widely within the research community. This might be due in part to the lack of standardized data formats for clinically annotated data, and the lack of incentives and simple mechanisms for sharing data.

#### **Future Directions**

Some teams have experimented with adding more "compartments" (creating whole body models) such as reported in Lakin et al [45] and Gaohua and Kimura [58]. The first of these incorporated ABP regulation and modeled the larger closed loops that extend outside the cranial cavity, whereas the second team focused on temperature regulation and the effects of hypothermia on ICP.

Bekker [49][50] reported on the integration of PK models and ICP dynamic models, which would seem to hold much promise. More work is needed to continue improve models of primary mechanisms and processes such as CAR in order to improve our understanding of these critical physiological mechanisms.

More carefully annotated prospective data collection is needed to improve model calibration and testing. Many groups report the use of prospective data (e.g., Ursino and others), but practical ways to share the data and generally accepted data format standards are very much needed. We suggest that a central repository such as Physiobank (www.physiobank.org) would be an ideal solution. Datasets need to include physiologic waveform and parametric data, clinical information (e.g. age, sex, type and severity of injury, outcome), and, most importantly, clinical annotations with time stamped information about treatment start and stop times, concurrent medication administration, changes in mechanical ventilation, and detailed laboratory and radiographic test results [60][61].

In order to improve the acceptance of model-based findings by clinicians, model logic must be very carefully explained using simplified diagrams and pictures. The work of Czosnyka et al [34][35], Ursino and Lodi [22], and Wakeland and Goldstein [57] represents a start, but much more progress is needed.

Algorithms are need to quickly "fit" non-specific models to data collected for specific patients, and then identifying promising treatment options for these patients. The hidden state variable estimation methods demonstrated by Hu et al [57] may lead the way here.

There exists a need to improve models in order to better understand phenomena of secondary mechanisms and secondary insults as discussed by Czosnyka et al [36]. This phenomenon may involve cellular breakdown from prolonged ischemia, or changes in osmotic pressure gradients due to increased quantities of large molecules in the interstitial fluid. This topic was discussed in detail by A. Marmarou at his plenary talk at the ICP2004 Symposium in Hong Kong, but work in this area has been limited.

# **SUMMARY**

Over the past several decades, considerable research has been done to create, validate, and apply computer simulation models of ICP dynamics that strive to reflect the underlying physiology and pathophysiology. The sophistication of the models and the quality of the results has improved significantly as computer hardware and computer simulation software has improved. However, the clinical impact of these models remains negligible, due in part to the lack of substantial databanks of clinically annotated data, and also, of course, to the fact that intracranial physiology and the associated autoregulatory mechanisms are complex and only partially understood.

This paper reviewed 57 central articles and two Ph.D. dissertations covering three decades of research. The paper provided not only detailed tabular information to allow for quick comparison of model details, analysis methods, and results; but also various summaries and syntheses that allow the reader to quickly develop an appreciation for this particular body of literature. The details included the main thrust of each article, and information regarding the phenomenon studied, the experimental data provided, the types of diagrams provided, model state variables, key assumptions/logic/constraints, the types of model outputs provided, how the model was validated, and what sorts of experimental simulations were run, such as different treatment options or experimental protocols.

The discussion section reviewed the seminal articles in more detail, especially the contributions by key investigators and research teams; and also summarized the specific findings regarding CSF production and absorption, the relationship between volume and pressure, different cerebral auto regulation mechanisms, and other topics such as model simplicity and the appropriateness of clinical guidelines regarding the maintenance of cerebral profusion pressure. The computer modeling methods employed were then discussed, as well as the limitations of current computer models, and promising future directions.

Significant opportunities for advancement in the field exist, including the possibility for making important clinical contributions, but these depend on several factors: 1) that the requisite data needed to calibrate and validate computer simulation models be collected and disseminated, 2) that additional physiologic mechanisms be incorporated into the models, and 3) that newer, systems-oriented analysis methods be applied in clinically relevant ways.

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Figure 1: Number of articles by year of publication











# Table III: Focus of model, phenomena studied, and data provided



# Table IV: Model Details



# Table V: Model outputs, testing, results



# Table V: Model outputs, testing, results



## Table VI: Additional notes and comments for selected articles

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