

**Genentech**  
*A Member of the Roche Group*

**gQSPSim: a SimBiology®-based GUI  
for standardized QSP model development  
and application**

*I. Hosseini and J. Feigelman  
April 15, 2020*

## Genentech

- **Monica Susilo**, Associate Scientist
- **Vidya Ramakrishnan**, Associate Scientist
- **Saroja Ramanujan**, Principal Scientist and Associate Director
- **Kapil Gadkar**, Principal Scientist

## Mathworks

- **Anita Gajala**, Senior Tech. Consultant
- **Sietse Braakman**, Application Engineer Computational Biology
- **Ricardo Paxson**, Director of Computational Biology
- **Fulden Buyukozturk**, Engineer and Product Manager, MathWorks

## To facilitate the development, exploration, and distribution of QSP models using an interactive graphical environment

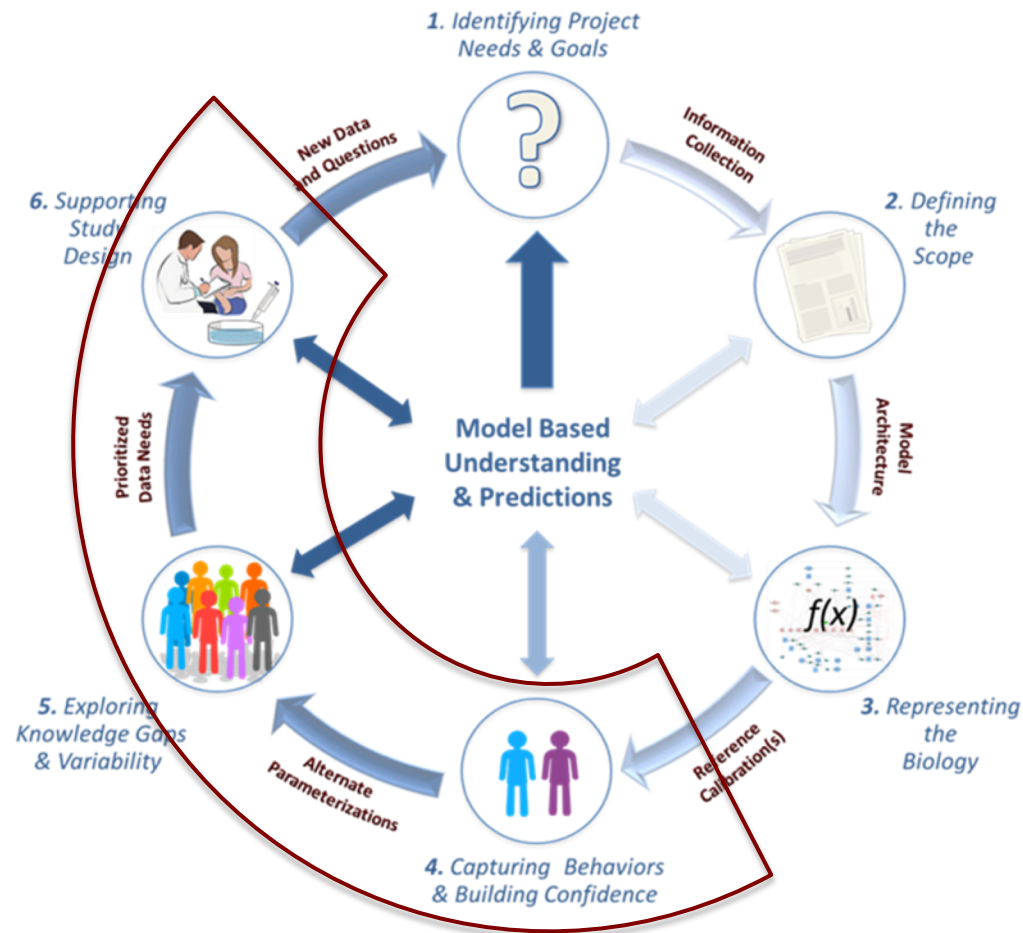
- Streamlined **calibration of QSP models** simultaneously to data collected across multiple experimental conditions
- Exploration of parameter uncertainty and biological variability via **generation of virtual populations**
- Generation of robust **model-based predictions** with virtual populations aided by interactive visualizations.
- gQSPSim works with **SimBiology-built models**
- **Cross-platform compatible sessions** files that can be easily shared between modelers
- **Documentation** of the workflow for reproducibility and transparency
- **Open-source platform:** users who would like to contribute to the development of gQSPSim are invited to contact us.
- **Review** of all model based analyses via GUI for non-modelers

- Introduction
  - Workflow for QSP model development and utilization
  - Overview of gQSPSim framework, building blocks and functionalities
- Demo
  - Showcase features of gQSPSim with TMDD model

### Six stages of QSP model development & implementation

1. Identifying project needs & goals
2. Defining model and project scope
3. Representing the biology
4. Capturing behaviors
5. Explore knowledge gaps & variability
6. Supporting experimental & clinical design

- Typically an iterative process
- Needs to be adapted to specific project
- Model based “value” addition at each stage



Gadkar et al, CPT-PSP 2016



## Virtual subject (VS)

Single structure & parameterization of the model yielding *virtual measurements* within ranges of corresponding data

- subject = animal, human, cell, pathway, ...



## Reference virtual subject (Ref VS)

Virtual subject with virtual measurements representative of corresponding real-world data in a specified patient phenotype

- e.g., severe vs. moderate vs. mild disease activity



## Virtual Cohort

Collection of “candidate” virtual subjects with alternate structures or parameterizations each yielding measurements consistent with corresponding data



## Virtual Population (VPop)

Set of virtual subjects (from a virtual cohort) that is selected and statistically *weighted* to reproduce selected statistical features of corresponding data

- e.g., mean and std. dev. of biomarker measurements

- QSPC2021 Workshop
- Journal Publication: <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/31957304>

## gQSPSim: A SimBiology-Based GUI for Standardized QSP Model Development and Application

Iraj Hosseini, Justin Feigelman, Anita Gajjala, Monica Susilo, Vidya Ramakrishnan, Saroja Ramanujan, Kapil Gadkar ✉

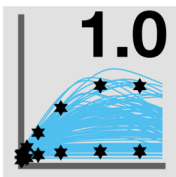
- Matlab Central:  
<https://www.mathworks.com/matlabcentral/fileexchange/73631-gqspsim>



File Exchange

Search File Exchange

File Exchange



### gQSPSim

version 1.0.2 (74.9 MB) by Iraj Hosseini

The app is used for QSP Modeling and Simulation.  
<https://github.com/feigelman/gQSPsim-release>

★★★★★ 1 Rating

21 Downloads ⓘ

Updated 21 Feb 2020



view license on GitHub

+ Follow

Download from GitHub

Expert Modeler

1



.sbproj File #m

...

.sbproj File #1

**Model #1**

- Diagram
- Doses
- Variants
- Parameters
- Species
- Rules
- Reactions

**Model #2**

...

**Model #n**

**SimBiology®**

1. The modeler builds models and projects in SimBiology®



## gQSPSim (Genentech QSP Simulator)

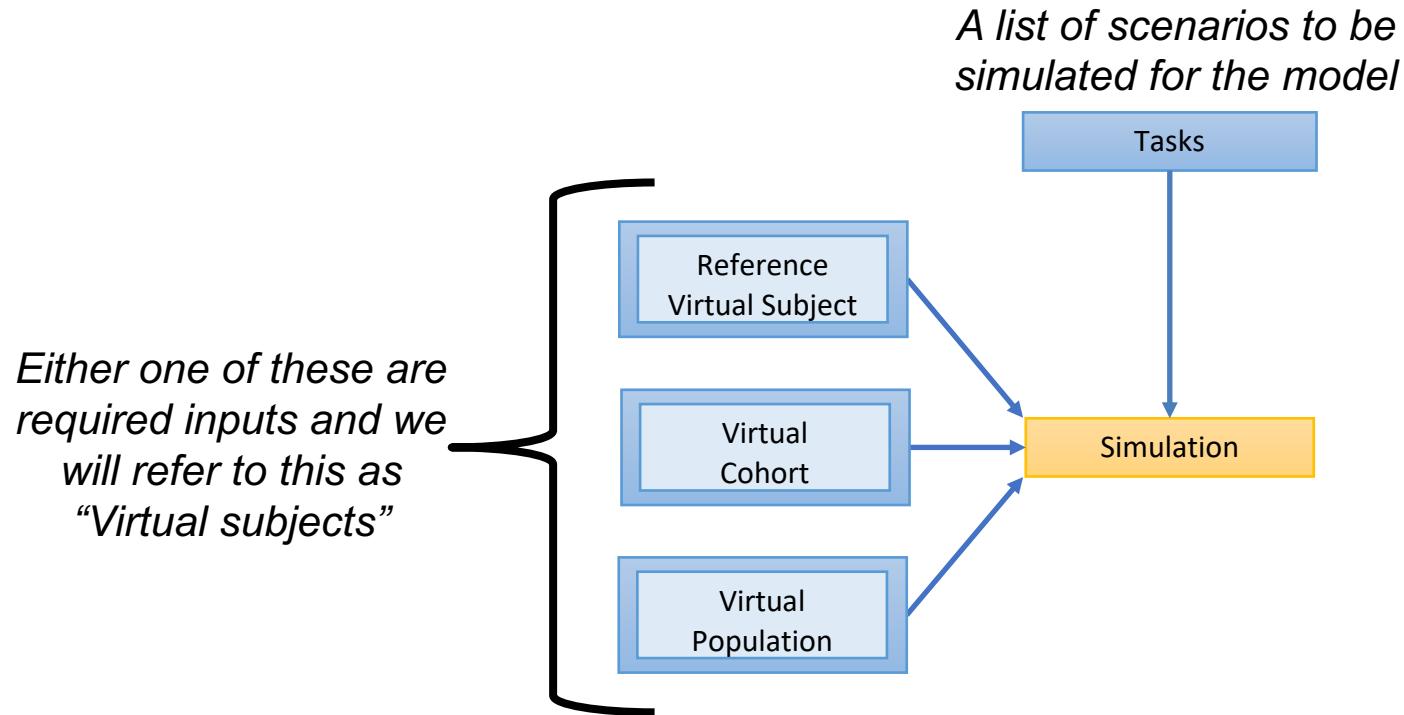
### Functionalities

1. **Simulation**: simulates one or more virtual subjects for the desired scenarios
2. **Optimization/Calibration**: produces reference virtual subject
3. **Virtual cohort generation**: produces a collection of virtual subjects
4. **Virtual population generation**: weights virtual subjects to match data

### Building blocks

1. **Tasks** (used for all functionalities)
2. **Parameters** (used for cohort generation, optimization)
3. **Optimization dataset** (used for optimization)
4. **Acceptance criteria** (used for cohort generation)
5. **Target statistics** (used for virtual population generation)
6. **Virtual populations** (used for simulation)

# The simulation functionality requires task(s) and virtual subject(s) as inputs to generate desired model outputs



“Task” is a virtual experiment corresponding to a specific real experiment

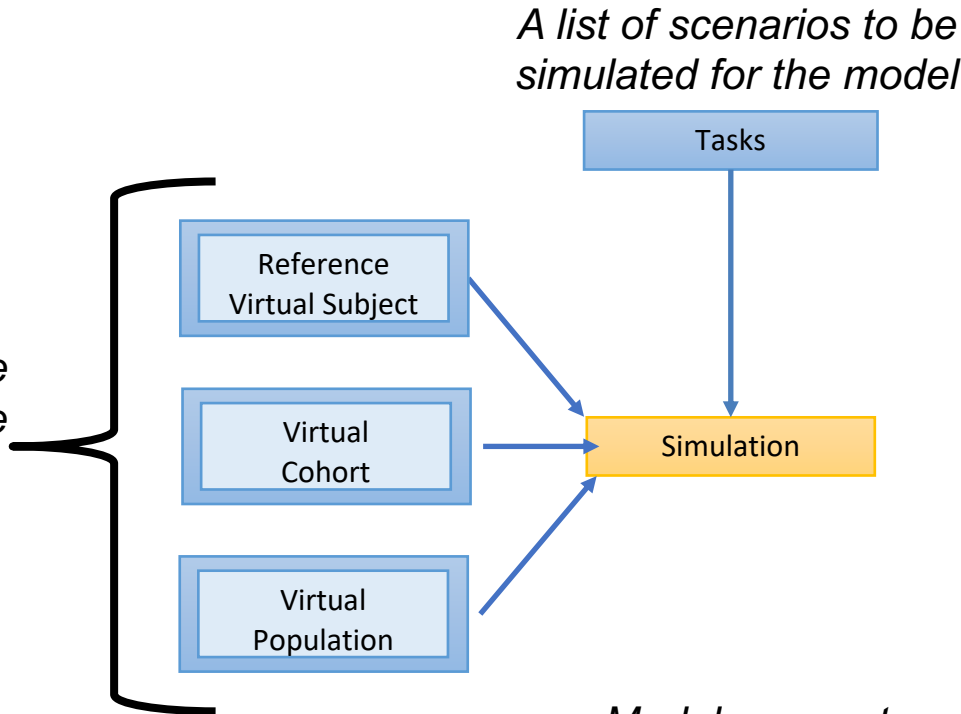
The screenshot displays the gQSPsim 1.0 software interface for configuring a 'Task'. The interface is divided into several sections:

- Session Explorer:** A tree view on the left showing the project structure, including 'Building blocks', 'Tasks', 'Parameters', 'Datasets', 'Acceptance Criteria', 'Target Statistics', 'Virtual Subject(s)', 'Functionalities', and 'Deleted Items'. The 'Tasks' folder is expanded, showing 'A - 3.0mpk' selected.
- Edit Panel:** The main configuration area with fields for 'Name' (A - 3.0mpk), 'Description', 'Project' (casestudy2\_TMDD\_template.sbproj), and 'Model' (TMDDmodel). A dropdown menu for 'Simbiology model selection' is highlighted with the text: *Simbiology model selection via dropdown menu*.
- Variants to activate:** A list of simulation variants with checkboxes. The text overlay says: *Select available “variants” for the particular simulation*.
- Doses to include:** A list of doses (0.3 mg/kg, 1.0 mg/kg, 10.0 mg/kg, 3.0 mg/kg) with checkboxes. The text overlay says: *Select available doses to be used for the particular simulation*.
- Species to include:** A list of species (Complex (nM), FreeTarget (ng/ml), FreeTarget (nM), PeriAbAmt (mcg/kg), PeriConc (mcg/ml), SCdepot (mcg/kg), s\_target\_init) with checkboxes. The text overlay says: *Select available outputs for plotting or export*.
- Rules to deactivate:** A list of rules with checkboxes. The text overlay says: *Optional advanced feature to select sub-modules from the main model*.
- Reactions to deactivate:** A list of reactions with checkboxes.
- Settings:** Configuration options for 'Output Times' (0.0, 1.21), 'Max Wall Clock (sec):' (60), and a checkbox for 'Run to Steady State'. The text overlay says: *Simulation settings: simulation time; sampling time*.

At the bottom of the window, there are buttons for 'Remove Invalid', 'OK', and 'Cancel'. A copyright notice at the bottom left reads: © 2014, Genentech / Proprietary information — Please do not copy, distribute or use without prior written consent. A small logo at the bottom right reads: A MEMBER OF THE ROCHE GROUP.

# The simulation functionality requires task(s) and virtual subject(s) as inputs to generate desired model outputs

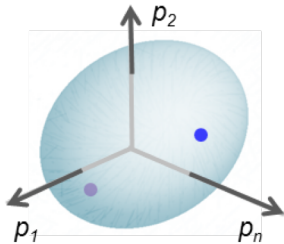
*Either one of these are required inputs and we will refer to this as "Virtual subjects"*



*Optional prevalence weight*

*Model parameters*

Parameter space,  $p$



	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I
1	V1	V2	CL	CLd	kon	KD	s_target_init	target_thalf	PWeight
2	68.3016501	52.29451629	4.578085	14.84338813	117.870587	0.391493931	10.49979967	0.749388654	0.088612613
3	80.3783391	39.5039084	3.338302	13.74219271	146.23757	0.327020679	10.15818384	0.74331779	0.00052178
4	12.5066142	53.8813687	4.894156	14.94776178	139.918774	0.591845329	14.01328077	0.773041176	0.005046668
5	52.3603256	41.8663783	4.663769	10.3325671	106.26201	0.280617245	11.51605834	0.798053305	4.26685E-07
6	13.3303082	49.5357689	4.213906	13.90905142	488.553598	0.604244874	10.39922969	0.759144492	0.00790045
7	23.2869547	39.78987738	4.230831	15.89166259	61.9373199	0.372207506	11.54370888	0.839850151	0.000850791
8	94.4800937	49.94300273	6.36913	12.63405972	141.267966	0.533090658	10.67150552	0.821555485	0.001715277
9	99.8756392	43.34365028	3.476382	11.78156381	205.792043	0.372452034	14.04457692	0.750568076	0.003471445
10	84.851535	36.1030722	5.005752	13.71546034	468.203743	0.487573207	10.59146022	0.886896622	0.00147428
11	13.8194734	44.7821012	5.937639	9.945518819	165.59476	0.460015886	13.39861342	0.865069222	0.002969216

*Virtual subject(s) is an excel file*

# Optimization functionality generates a reference VS such that it matches the available datasets across different scenarios

*Collection of data for different scenarios to be fit*

Datasets

*Model parameters to be altered to obtain best fit*

Parameters

Tasks

Optimization

Reference Virtual Subject

*Group/ID indicators to map to different tasks*

*Output data (time matched)*

	A	B	C	D	E	F
1	Group	ID	Time	pk_free_ugm	target_free_ngml	target_tot_ngml
2	1	1	0	121.0	550.6	550.6
3	1	1	0.1	104.9	0.6	588.6
4	1	1	0.2	93.7	0.7	626.2
5	1	1	1	50.0	1.4	908.8
6	1	1	3	25.6	4.2	1501.6
7	1	1	7	14.9	16.4	2343.3
8	1	1	14	6.7	96.6	3029.4
9	1	1	21	2.6	231.4	2929.2
10	2	2	0	12.1	550.6	550.6
11	2	2	0.1	8.7	16.3	587.5
12	2	2	0.2	7.5	19.7	623.6
13	2	2	1	2.9	62.8	882.6
14	2	2	3	0.6	251.5	1257.6
15	2	2	7	0.2	433.3	1259.9
16	2	2	14	0.1	512.0	950.7
17	2	2	21	0.0	538.2	758.6
18						

*Dataset is an excel file*

# Optimization functionality generates a reference VS such that it matches the available datasets across different scenarios

Collection of data for different scenarios to be fit

Datasets

Tasks

Model parameters to be altered to obtain best fit

Parameters

Optimization

Reference Virtual Subject

Include in fitting?  
Yes/No

Parameter name

Scale for exploration

Range of exploration

Initial guess

	A	B	C	D E		F
	Include	Name	Scale	LB	UB	PO_1
1	Yes	V1	log	3.66	171.19	87.43
2	Yes	V2	linear	33.67	54.96	44.32
3	Yes	CL	log	2.22	7.34	4.78
4	Yes	CLd	linear	9.43	16.44	12.94
5	Yes	kon	log	56.66	715.98	386.32
6	Yes	KD	log	0.27	0.68	0.47

Parameters file is an excel file rior written consent

# Parameter variability is explored to develop a Virtual Cohort constrained to be within the desired Acceptance Criteria

Acceptable data range for different scenarios

Acceptance Criteria

Model parameters to be explored in Virtual Cohort

Parameters

Tasks

Virtual Cohort Generation

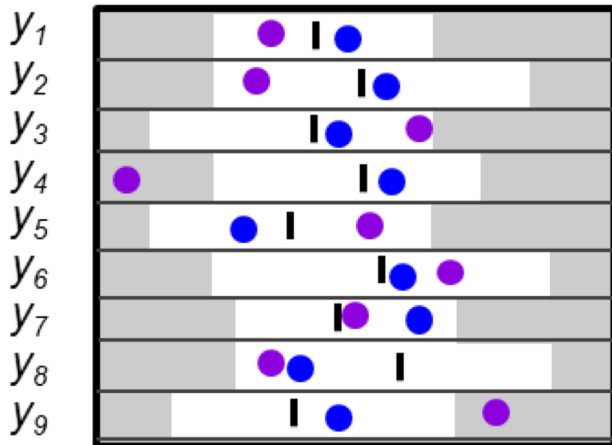
Virtual Cohort

Physiological outcomes "Acceptance" Criteria

Group/ID indicators to map to different tasks

Output names

Range of data



blue is a valid VS;  
purple is an invalid one.

	A	B	C	D	E
1	Group	Time	Data	LB	UB
2		1	0 pk_free_ugm	25.5	308.5
3		1	0.1 pk_free_ugm	23.0	257.2
4		1	0.2 pk_free_ugm	22.5	217.0
5		1	1 pk_free_ugm	19.0	76.4
6		1	3 pk_free_ugm	12.2	34.0
7		1	7 pk_free_ugm	4.7	23.9
8		1	14 pk_free_ugm	0.4	14.3
9		1	21 pk_free_ugm	0.3	8.2
10		1	0 target_free_ngml	384.0	742.5
11		1	0.1 target_free_ngml	0.1	1.9
12		1	0.2 target_free_ngml	0.1	2.1
13		1	1 target_free_ngml	0.5	3.9
14		1	3 target_free_ngml	1.2	11.3
15		1	7 target_free_ngml	2.0	59.4
16		1	14 target_free_ngml	3.5	568.0
17		1	21 target_free_ngml	6.8	682.7
18		1	0 target_tot_ngml	384.0	742.5
19		1	0.1 target_tot_ngml	399.8	790.5

Acceptance criteria is an excel file

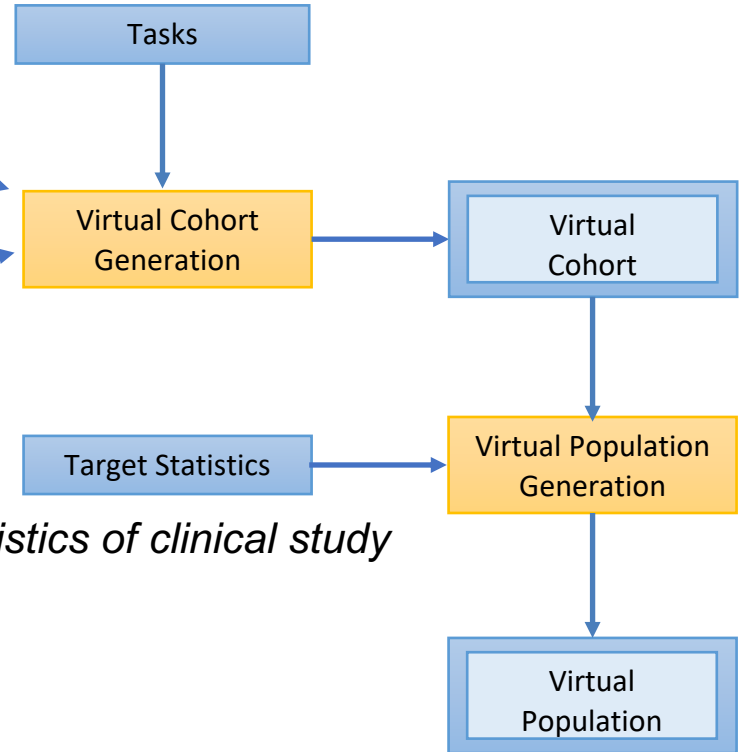
# Virtual Cohort is prevalence weighted to produce a Virtual Population that represents the statistics of a “real” clinical study

Acceptable data range for different scenarios

Acceptance Criteria

Model parameters to be explored in Virtual Cohort

Parameters



Output names

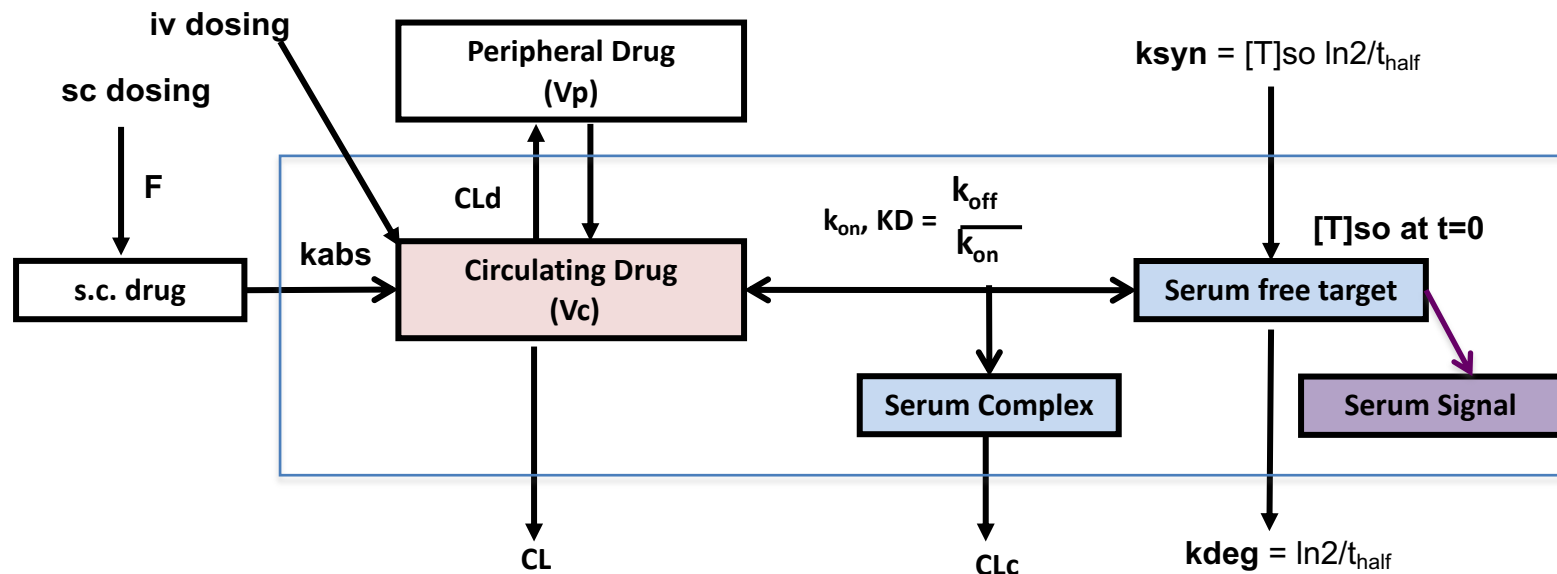
Stats to match

Statistics of clinical study

Group	Time	Species	Type	Value1	Value2
1	0	pk_free_ugm	MEAN_STD	121.0	12.1
1	0.1	pk_free_ugm	MEAN_STD	104.9	10.5
1	0.2	pk_free_ugm	MEAN_STD	93.7	9.4
1	1	pk_free_ugm	MEAN_STD	50.0	5.0
1	3	pk_free_ugm	MEAN_STD	25.6	2.6
1	7	pk_free_ugm	MEAN_STD	14.9	1.5
1	14	pk_free_ugm	MEAN_STD	6.7	0.7
1	21	pk_free_ugm	MEAN_STD	2.6	0.3
1	0	target_free_ngml	MEAN	550.6	
1	0.1	target_free_ngml	MEAN	0.6	
1	0.2	target_free_ngml	MEAN	0.7	
1	1	target_free_ngml	MEAN	1.4	
1	3	target_free_ngml	MEAN	4.2	
1	7	target_free_ngml	MEAN	16.4	
1	14	target_free_ngml	MEAN	96.6	
1	21	target_free_ngml	MEAN	231.4	

Target statistics is an excel file





## Available Data

1. Unbound antibody concentration
2. Free Target concentration
3. Total Target concentration

## To Estimate

1. PK parameters
2. Antibody  $K_D$

## Data from a single-dose study

- **Dose:** 3 mg/kg and 0.3 mg/kg
- **In vitro Measured affinity:** 0.4 nM
- **Duration:** 21 days
- **Stats:** average, min and max of measurements

## Demo

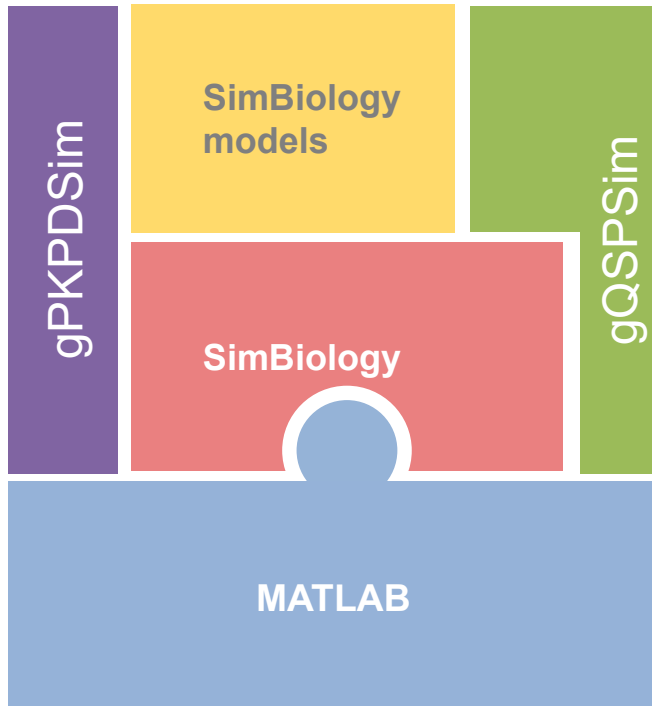
- Creating appropriate tasks
- Simulating model default values
- Parameter estimation (SS, PSO) and using “hand-calibration” features
- Generating a virtual cohort of valid patients
- Generating a virtual population of valid patients

---

# THANK YOU

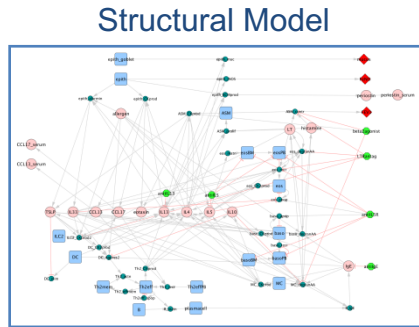
Questions? Contact [hosseini.iraj@gene.com](mailto:hosseini.iraj@gene.com)

## SimBiology and the MATLAB ecosystem

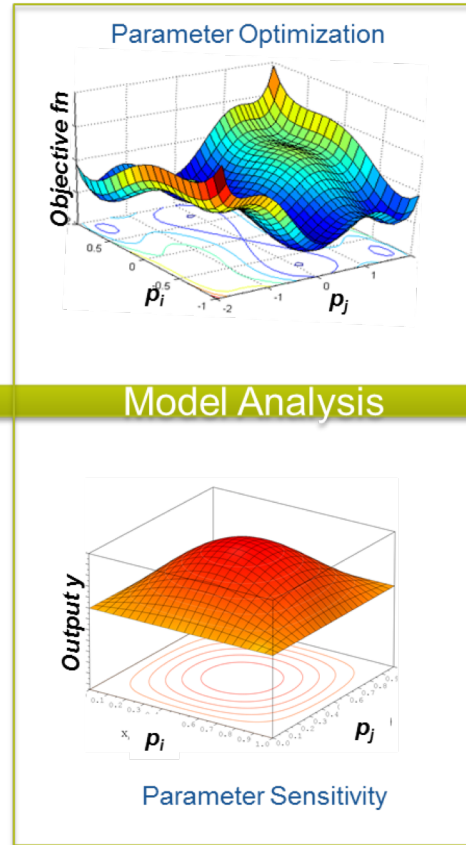
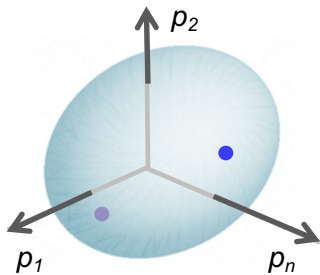


- Developed by end-users
  - Projects promote continuity and traceability of results
  - Graphical model representation
  - MATLAB and SimBiology infrastructure ensure reproducibility
- 
- MATLAB toolbox
  - Graphical and programmatic workflows
  - Comprehensive set of built-in analysis tools
  - Accelerate models by compiling to C-code
- 
- Programming language
  - Versatile platform
  - Maintained and updated
  - Rigorous testing framework to ensure quality of platform
- 
- **Where does gQSPSim sit in this ecosystem?**
  - **How is gPKPDSim different from gQSPSim?**
    - Deployed vs Developing models
    - Non-modelers vs Expert modelers

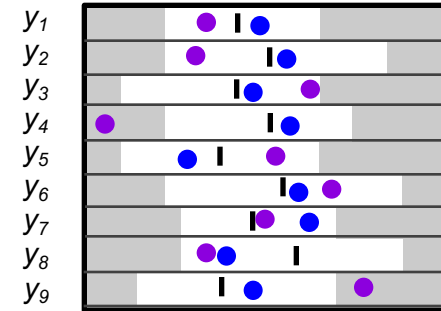
# Workflow and considerations for Reference Subject calibration



Parameter space,  $p$



Physiological outcomes  
"Acceptance" Criteria



Virtual Subjects

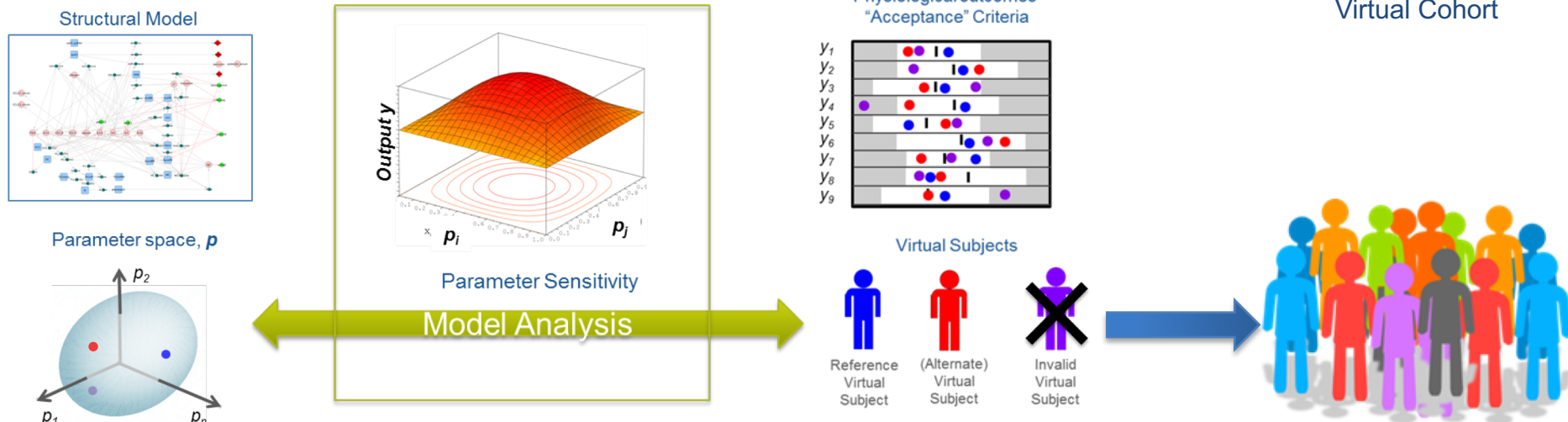


## Considerations

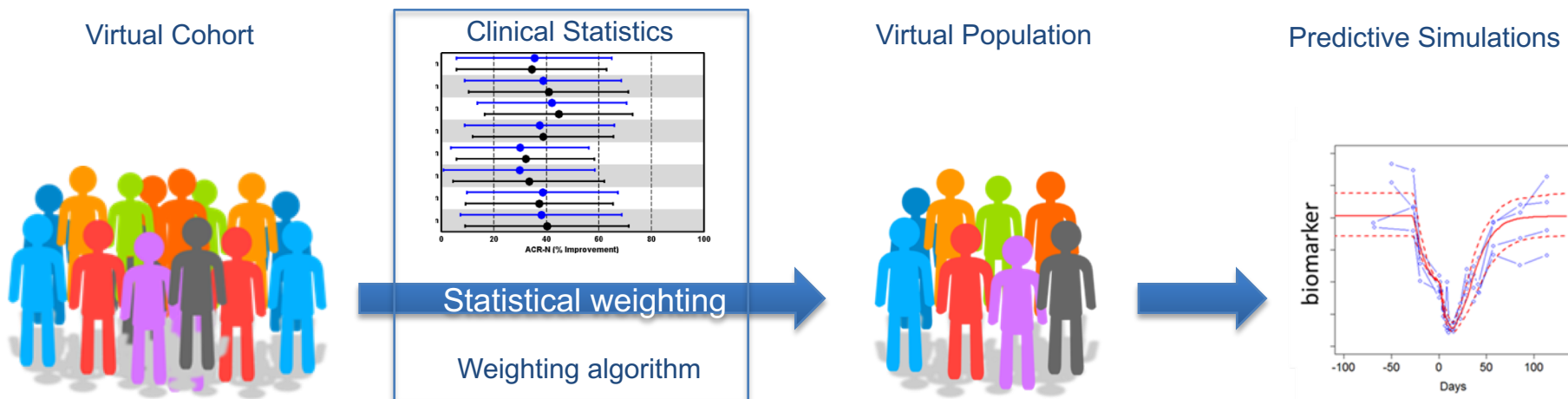
- Defining the objective function is non-trivial & critical for efficient Reference Subject calibration
- Iteration on QSP model representation is critical at this stage: (i) modifications to mathematical representation; (ii) expansion/reduction of biology included; (iii) alternate hypothesis testing
- Developing a suite of algorithms/tools specific for to QSP models is of high value

# Workflow for developing a Virtual Population

## Developing the Virtual Cohort



## Developing the Virtual Population



# Statistically weighed virtual population enables robust quantitative representation of a “real” clinical population

Each Virtual Subject in the Virtual Population assigned a “weight” corresponding to the probability of finding similar measurements in the clinical population

- The virtual population as a whole captures the observed statistics of the “true” clinical population of interest

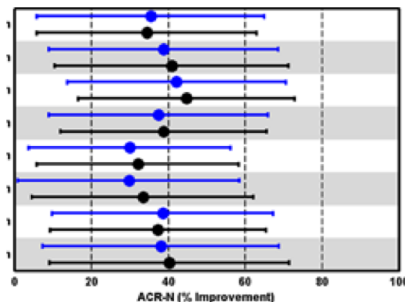
The key statistics captured include:

- Mean and distribution of clinical measurements both as baseline and responses to interventions
- Observed correlations (or lack thereof) between measurements

The weights could either be binary (include/exclude) or be continuous (range from 0-1)

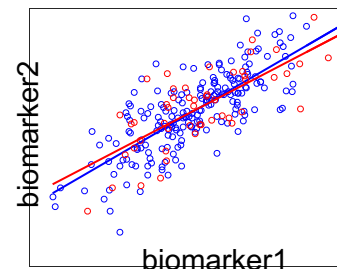
- Calculated using constrained optimization techniques to match the desired statistics

Virtual Population matching means & distributions of clinical populations



*Clinical data*  
*Virtual population*

Virtual Population captures correlation between biomarkers observed in clinical data



*Clinical data*  
*Virtual population*