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Author(s)	Mahemuti, Rouzimaimaiti
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[73] マヘムティ ロージマイマイティ MAHEMUTI ROUZIMAIMAITI (肉孜买买提 马合木提) 氏 博士の専攻分野の名称 博 士 (理学) 学 位 記 番 号 第 26121 号 学位授与年月日 平成25年3月25日 学位授与の要件 学位規則第4条第1項該当 基礎工学研究科システム創成専攻 学 位 論 文 名 MATHEMATICAL STUDY ON TUMOR CELL INVASION (腫瘍細胞浸潤に関する数理的研究) 論文審査委員 (主査) 教 授 給木 (副杳) 教 授 名和 範人 教 授 関根

論文内容の要旨

Cancer disease is one of the leading causes of death worldwide, especially in developed countries. Cancer treatment is one of the top fields of inquiry. Some treatments are intending to inhibit the ability of angiogenesis, formation of new blood vessels since cancer cells have a certain size and cannot grow further without nutrients from blood vessels [Shih and Lindley, 2006]. Others are trying to reduce and inhibit the ability of invasion of cancer cells. Cancer cells have their invasive feet on membrane which are called invadopodia, and it can degrade surrounding ECM (extracellular matrix) to provoke invasion. Cancer cells then can escape from the original tumor and establish their secondary tumor in other organs. In this study, we aim at investigating invasiveness of cancer cells.

Mathematical research on cancer treatment has boomed in the recent years. Some mathematicians contributed to investigate the motility of cells [Chaplain and Anderson, 2003], some mathematicians trying to investigate the growth of probability of invadopodia [Enderling et al, 2008]. Differently from them, we considered several processes such as actin reorganization, ECM degradation etc., required by invadopodia formation. Then considered a model to investigate how invadopodia appears, and what is the leading source of invadopodia.

First, as the basic understanding of mathematical modeling, we present the derivation of the reaction-diffusion equation from master equations. There, master equation is considered in n spatial dimensions. Then, we consider the models for invadopodia formation regarding actin reorganization, ECM degradation and MMP regulations by ECM fragments. Then we examine the spatial-temporal dynamics by running numerical simulations. Then we discuss its numerical simulations to observe the effect of loops. We also offer localization by using Allen-Cahn equation and random numbers to determine the location where invadopodia appears. Numerically, we had invadopodia-like projections close to the real phenomenon in space and time. We also found that MMP regulation by signals has vital effect on the formation of invadopodia.

