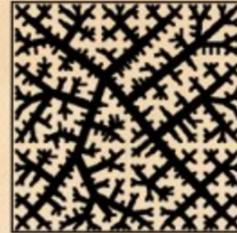
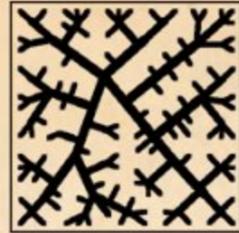
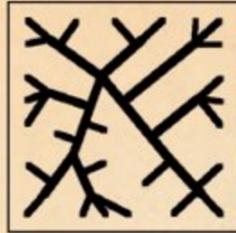
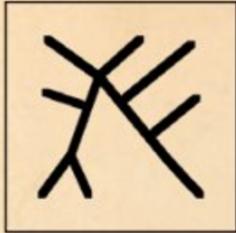


## Marc E. Gottlieb, MD, FACS

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Acute and chronic wounds • Diseases and defects of the soft tissues • Injuries, diseases, and defects of the hand and extremities • Defects of the head and trunk

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Fax 602-254-7891

megott@arimedica.com

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## Marc E. Gottlieb, MD, FACS

1415 N. 7th Avenue  
Phoenix, AZ 85007

Phone 602-252-3354  
Fax 602-254-7891

megott@arimedica.com

## DEVELOPMENTAL ANGIOGENESIS & THE BIOPHYSICS OF VASCULAR NETWORK FORMATION

Original presentation May 16, 2006, Scottsdale, AZ  
at the annual meeting of the Wound Healing Society

This is the original podium presentation.  
Additional annotations pending.

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**DEVELOPMENTAL ANGIOGENESIS &**

**THE BIOPHYSICS OF**

**VASCULAR NETWORK FORMATION**

**Marc Gottlieb**  
**MD**



**Phoenix**  
**Arizona**

# THE CENTURY OF THE SYSTEM

WOUND HEALING - A CLOSED LOOP CONTROL SYSTEM

COAGULOPATHIC ULCERS - CRITERIA & NOMENCLATURE

## Bioengineering and Systems Biology

TREY IDEKER,<sup>1</sup> L. RAIMOND WINSLOW,<sup>2</sup> and A. DOUGLAS LAUFFENBURGER<sup>3</sup>

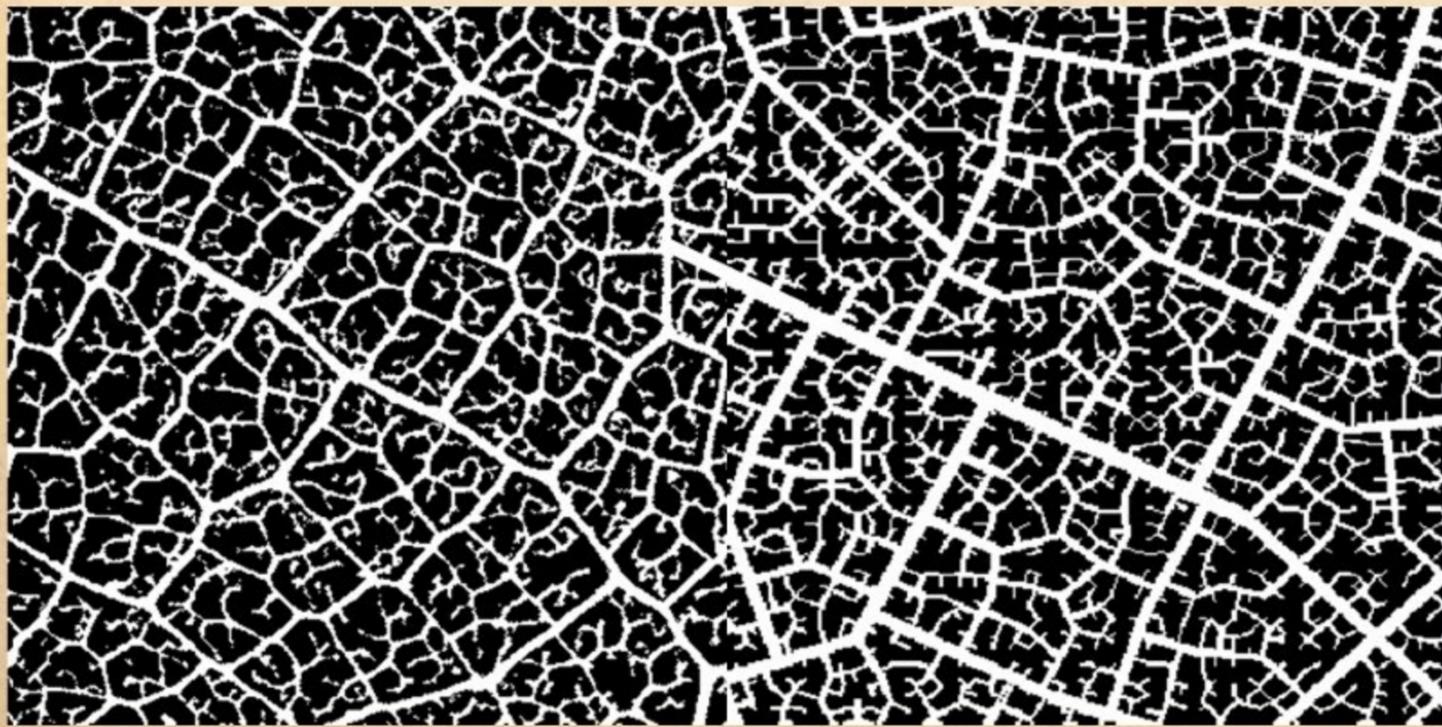
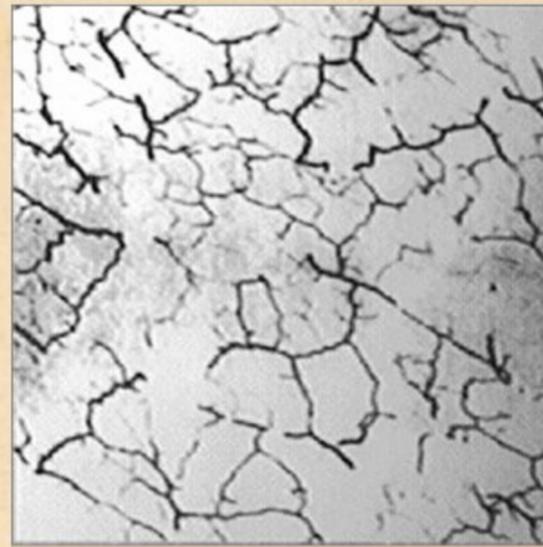
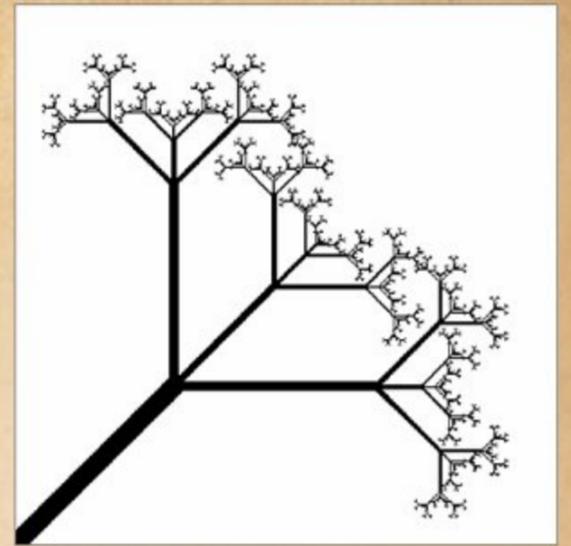
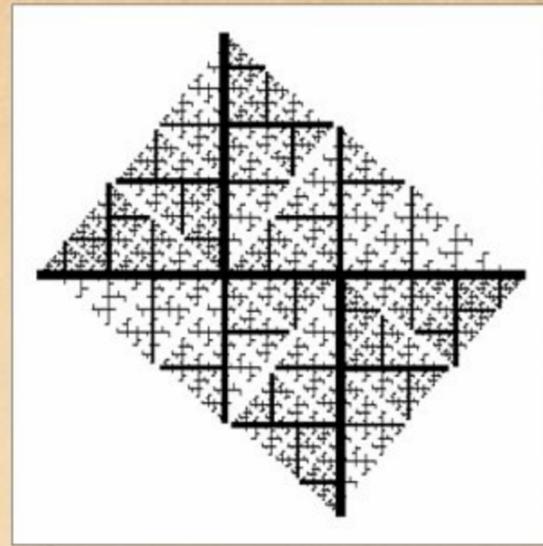
<sup>1</sup>Department of Bioengineering, University of California at San Diego; <sup>2</sup>Department of Biomedical Engineering, The Johns Hopkins University; and <sup>3</sup>Biological Engineering Division, Massachusetts Institute of Technology

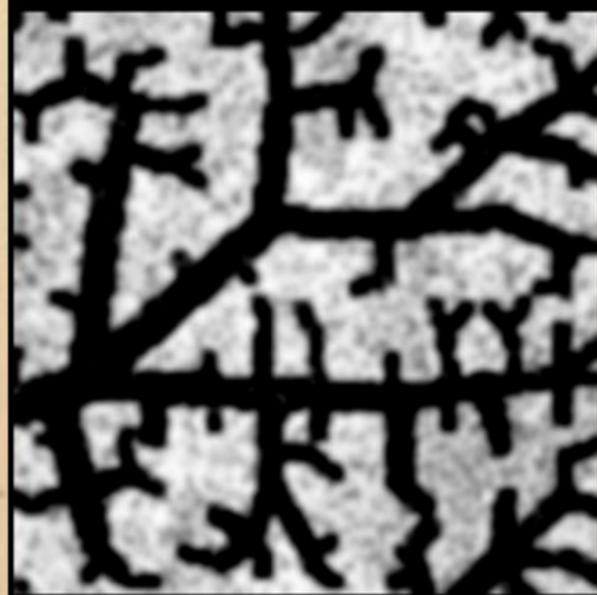
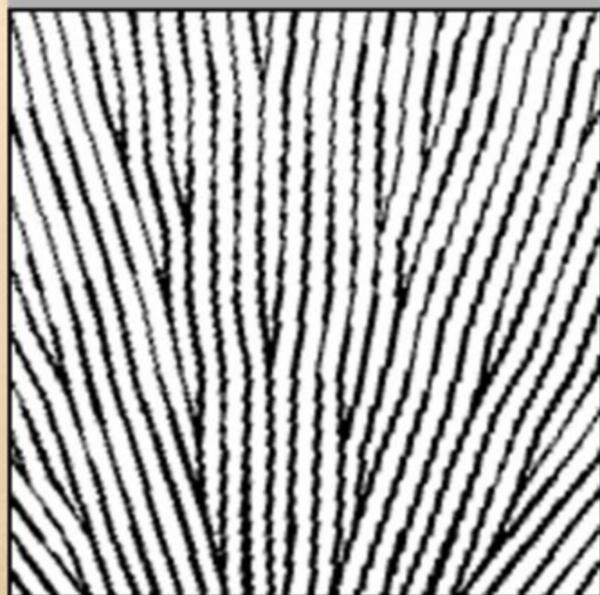
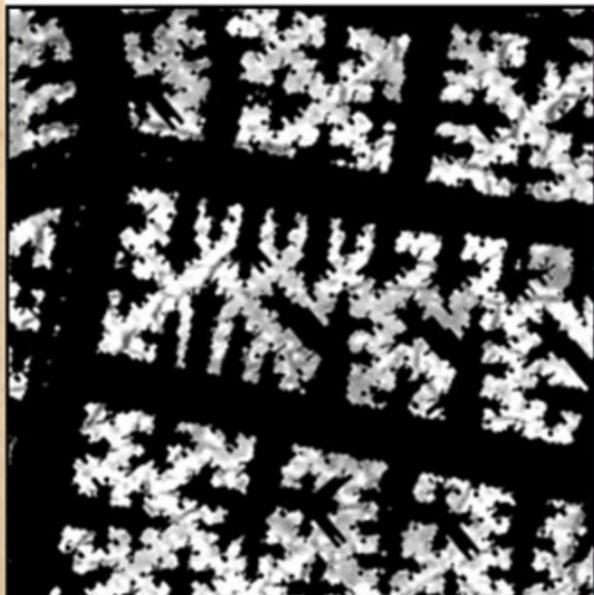
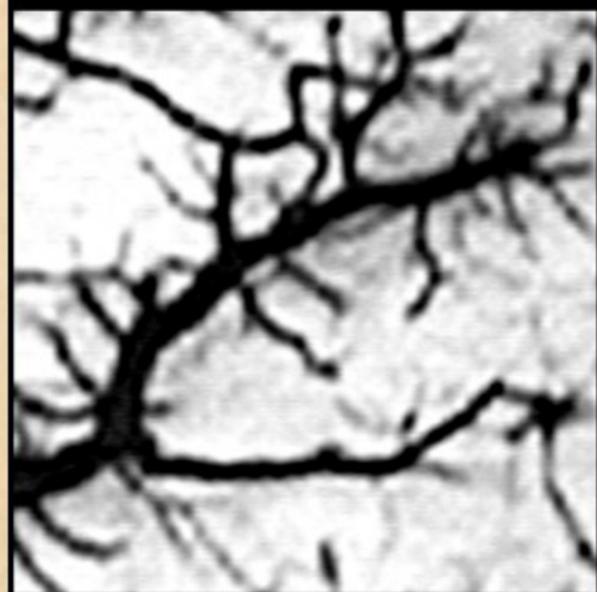
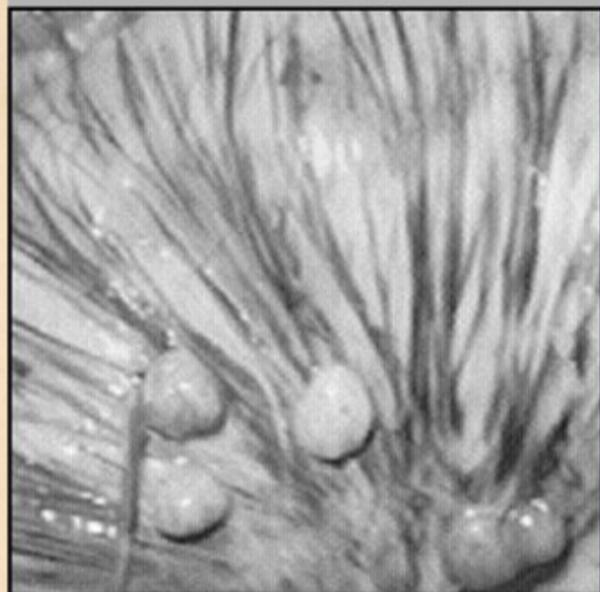
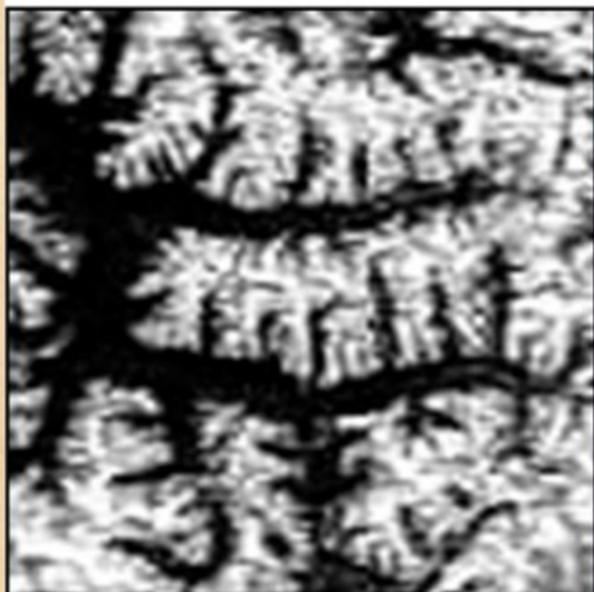
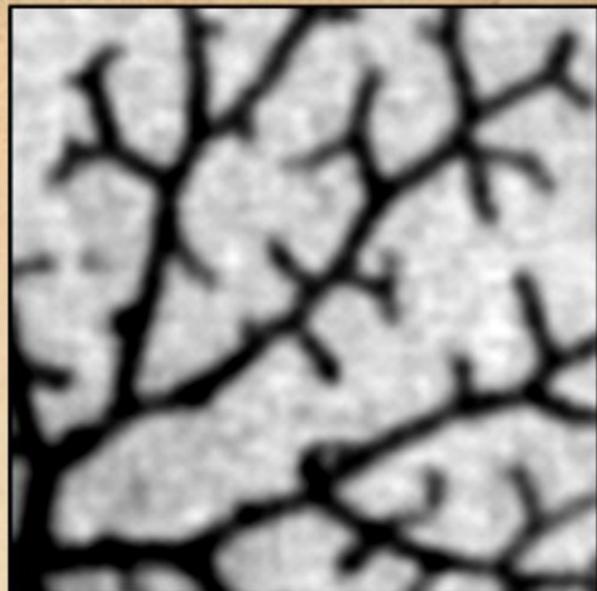
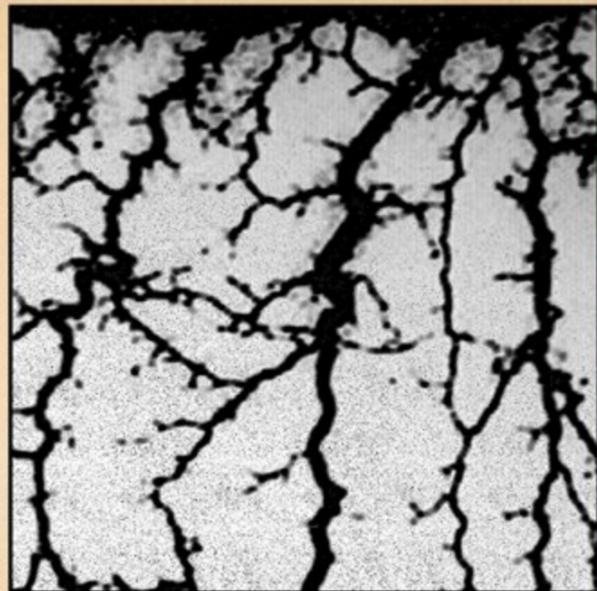
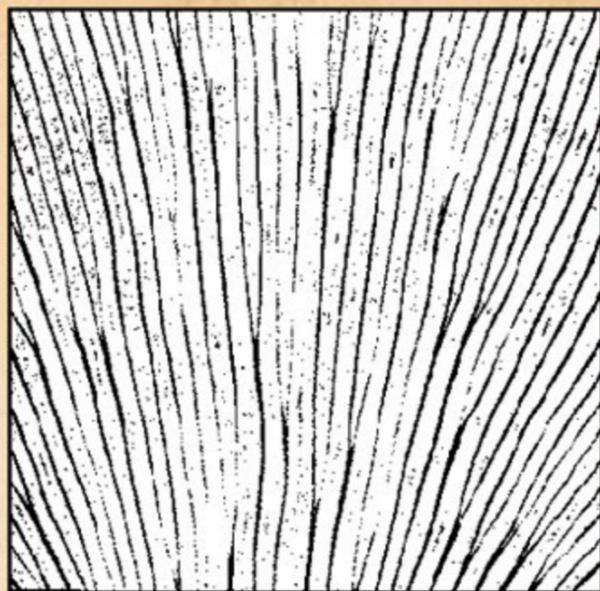
*(Received 11 April 2005; accepted 23 November 2005; published online: 11 February 2006)*

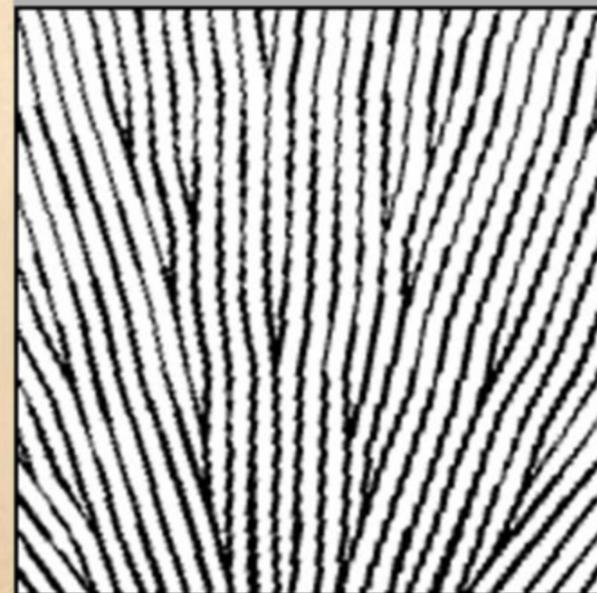
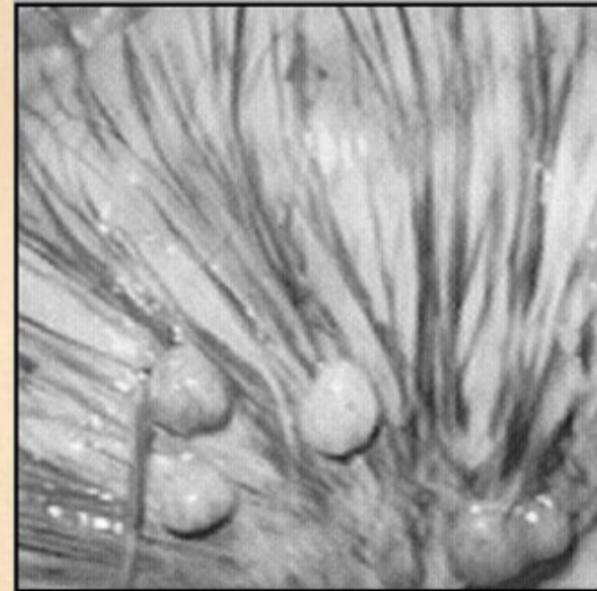
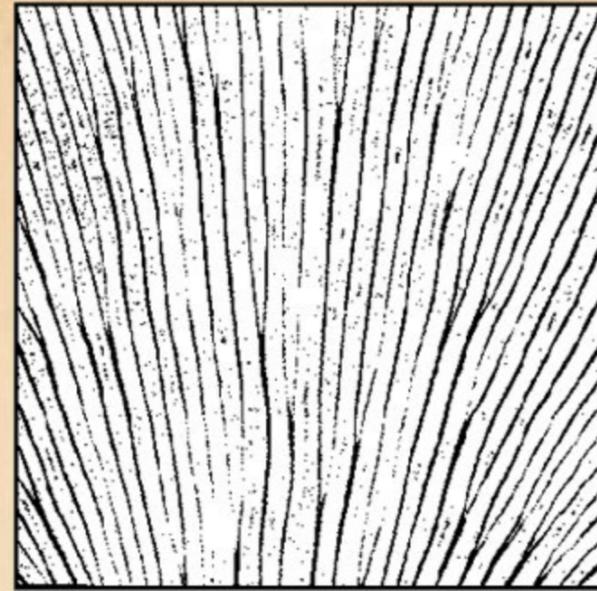
*Annals of Biomedical Engineering, February, 2006*

A field known as Systems Biology is emerging, from roots in the molecular biology and genomic biology revolutions—the succession of which has led biomedical scientists to recognize that living systems can be studied not only in terms of their mechanistic, molecular-level components but also in terms of many of them simultaneously. This

computational algorithms for Mining the data to generate hypotheses concerning the potential interpretation of these data sets is necessary. In order to consequently develop new predictions for experimental test (or design), computational Modeling is required for similar reason: unaided human intuition likely cannot produce effective predictions concern-



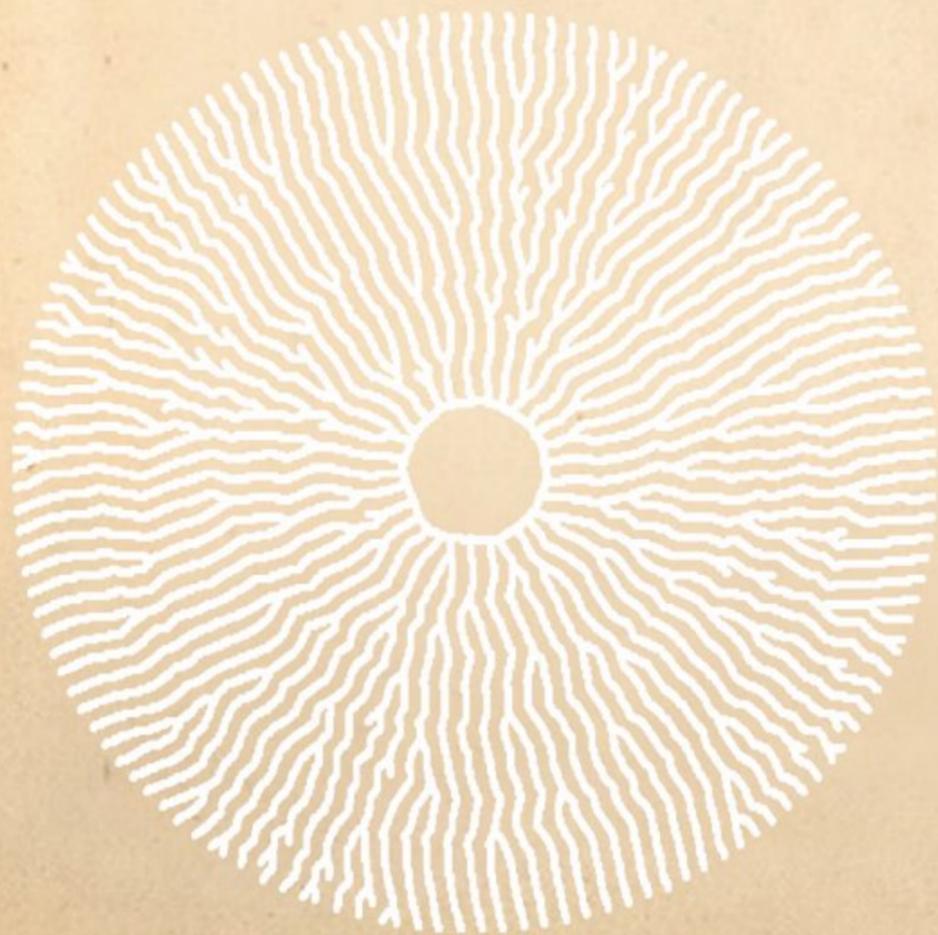


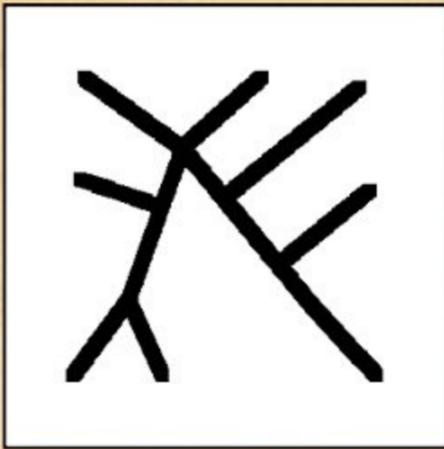


**Angiogenesis  
is a  
life-and-death  
critical process.**

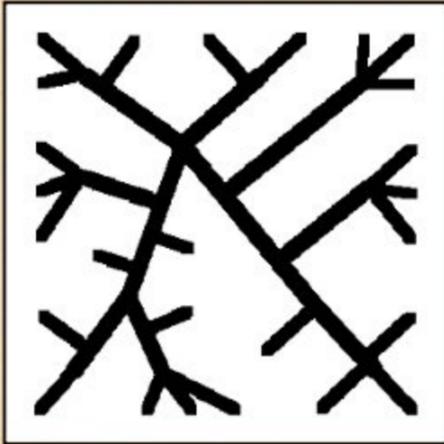
**VEGF & VEGFR  
genes are highly  
conserved across  
major taxa.**

**Multicellular life is  
impossible without  
angiogenesis  
and VEGF.**





**How do VEGF and the machinery of angiogenesis operate to create a vascular network?**



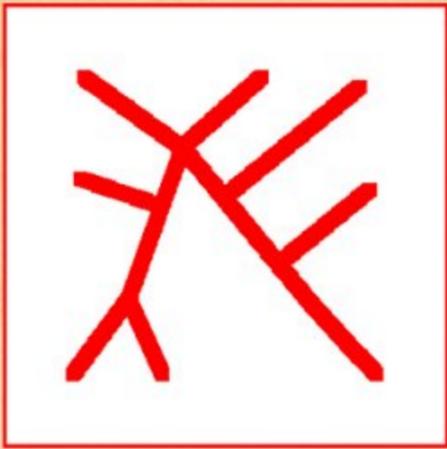
**How little information is needed to engineer vascular networks, and how efficient is the process?**



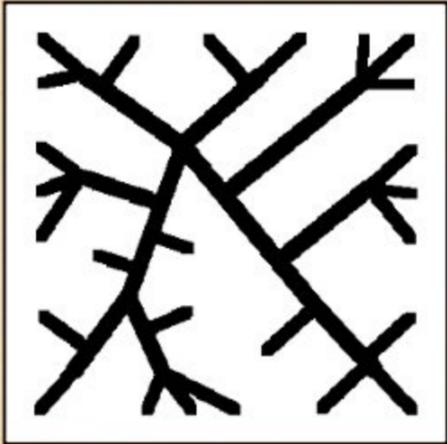
**How does the system ensure that the life-and-death accuracy of the process is conserved?**



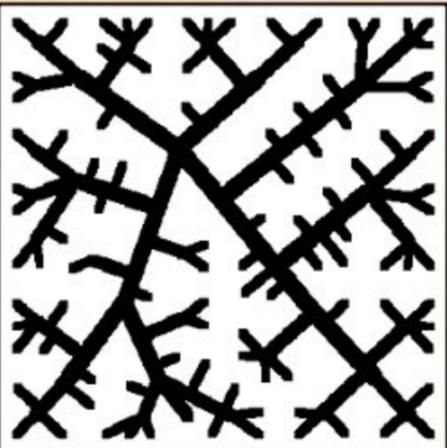
**What are the geometries and topologies of vascular networks, and why do other structures share them?**



**How do VEGF and the machinery of angiogenesis operate to create a vascular network?**



**Developmental angiogenesis is a closed loop control system.**



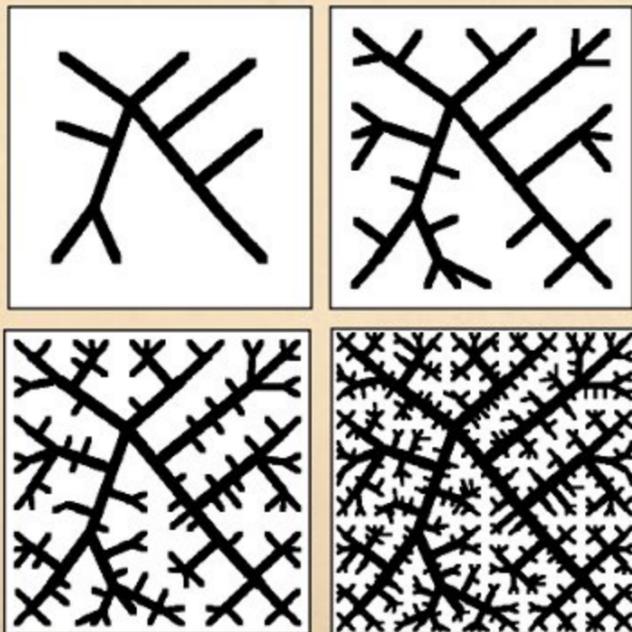
**It depends on angiocytes, other cells, oxygen, angiogenic factors, and diffusion.**



**Angiogenesis is a purely reactive process, an error correcting response to perturbations created by growth.**

# THE VT MODEL OF ANGIOGENESIS

THE VASCULAR neT MODEL  
OF THE FORMATION OF  
BLOOD VESSELS AND  
VASCULAR NETWORKS



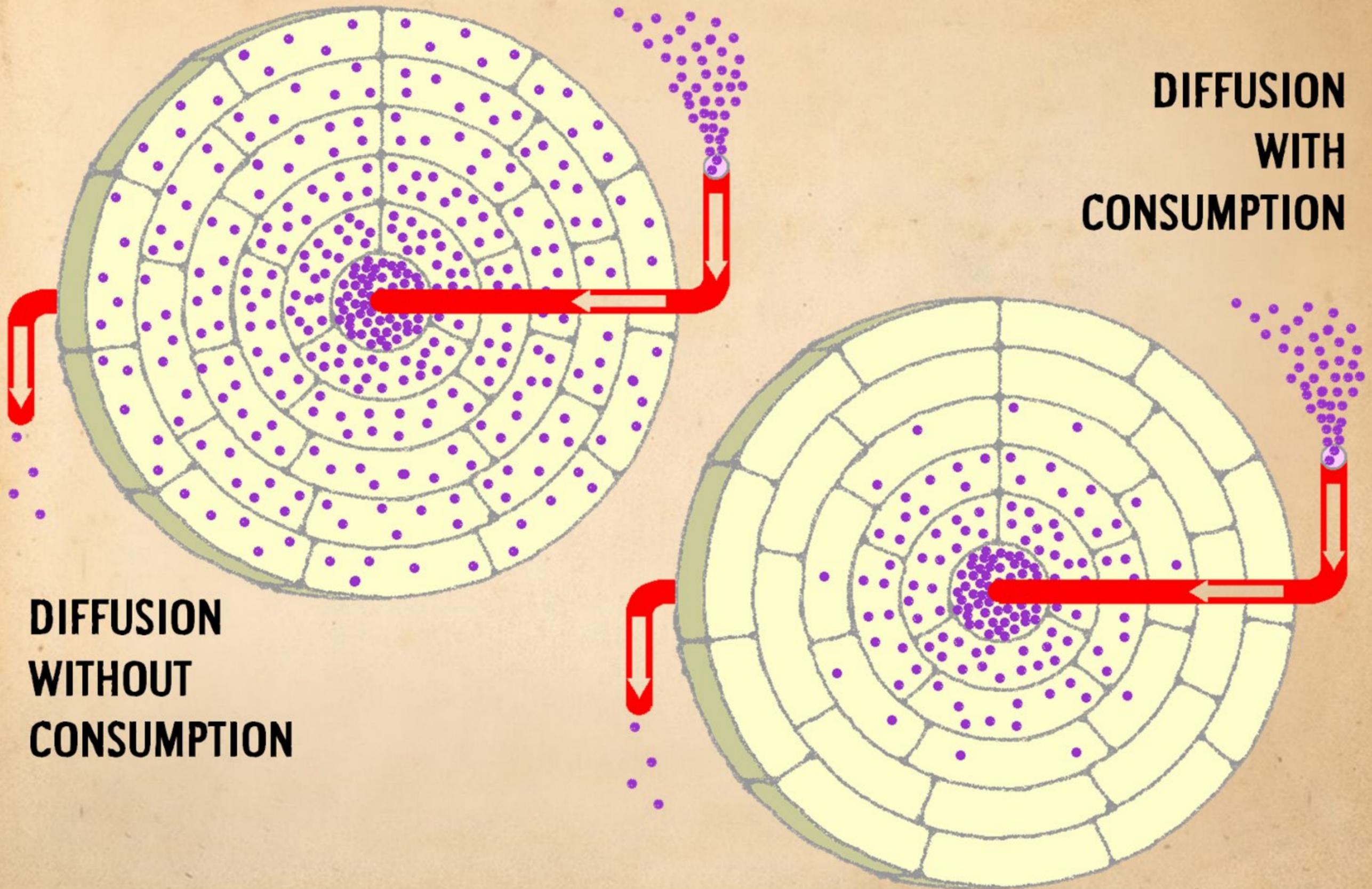
# ARIMEDICA



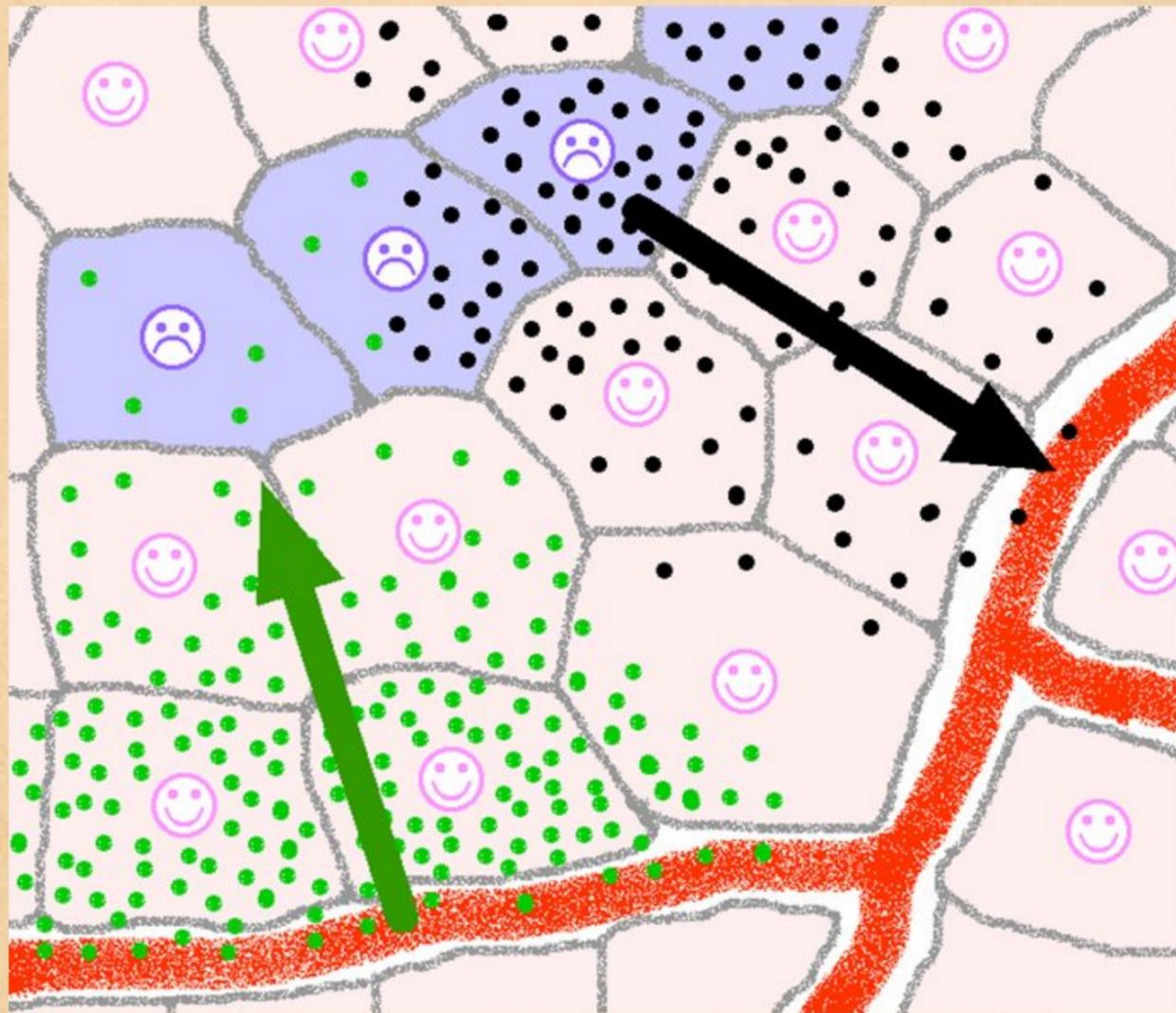
[www.arimedica.com](http://www.arimedica.com)



# ANGIOGENIC PHYSIOLOGY - THE REAL NATURE



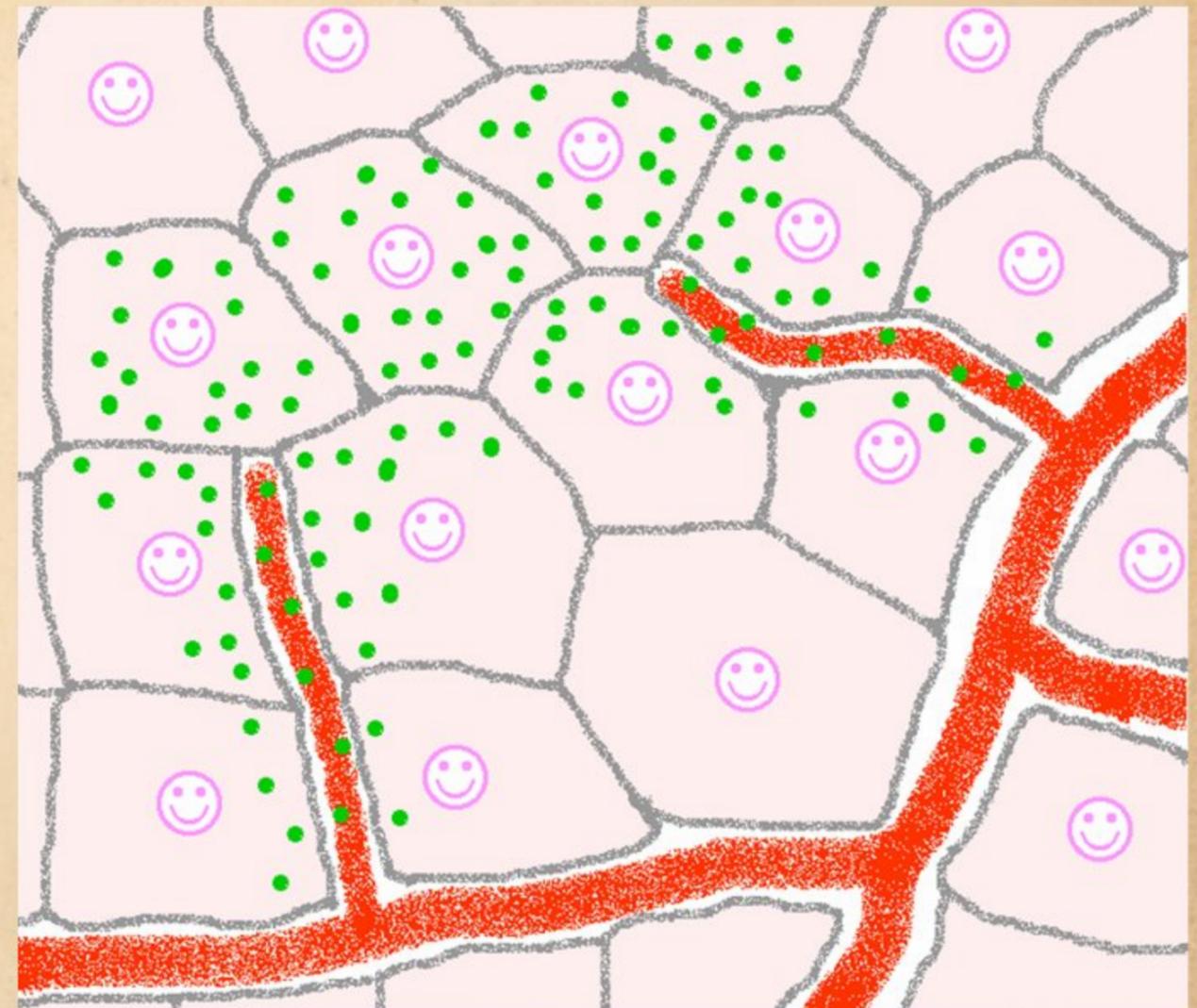
# ANGIOGENIC PHYSIOLOGY - THE REAL NATURE



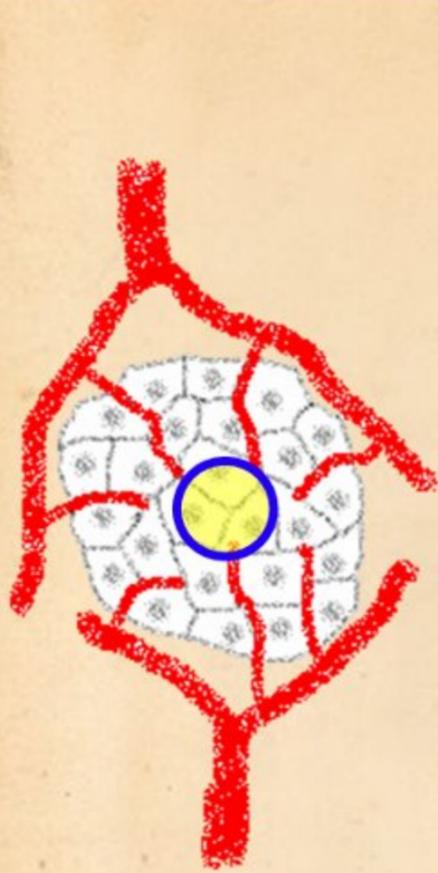
**NEW  
BLOOD VESSELS  
RESTORE  
OXYGEN SUPPLY**

**FORWARD DIFFUSION  
OF OXYGEN**

**BACK DIFFUSION OF  
ANGIOGENIC FACTORS**



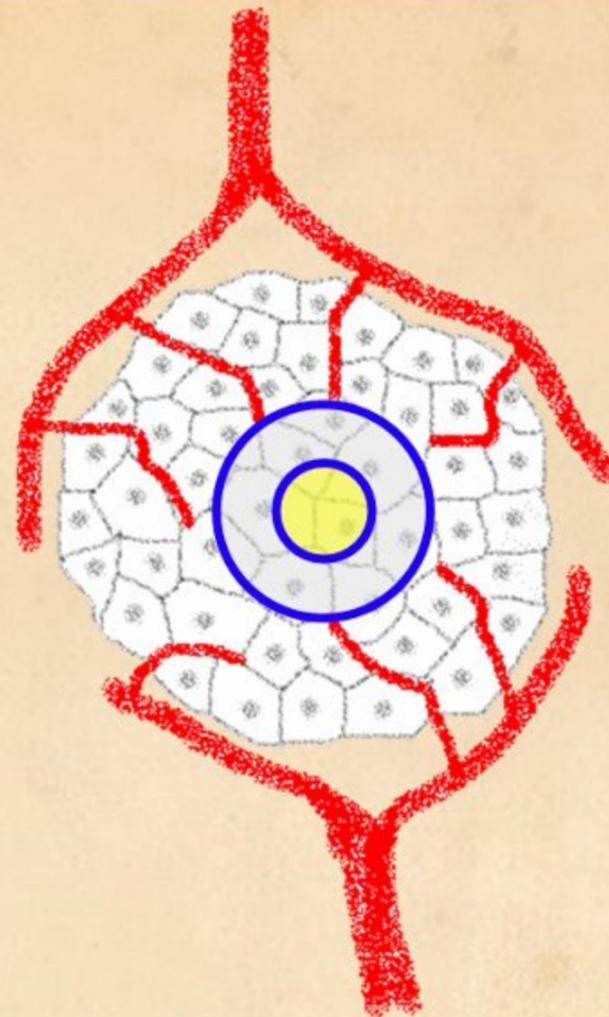
# ANGIOGENIC PHYSIOLOGY - THE REAL NATURE



**Current  
vessels**

**Short  
distances**

**Adequate  
oxygen**



**Isauxetic  
growth**

**Increased  
distances**

**Inadequate  
oxygen**



**Hypoxic  
cells**

**Release  
AFs**

**Tropic  
stimulus**



**Angiogenic  
response**

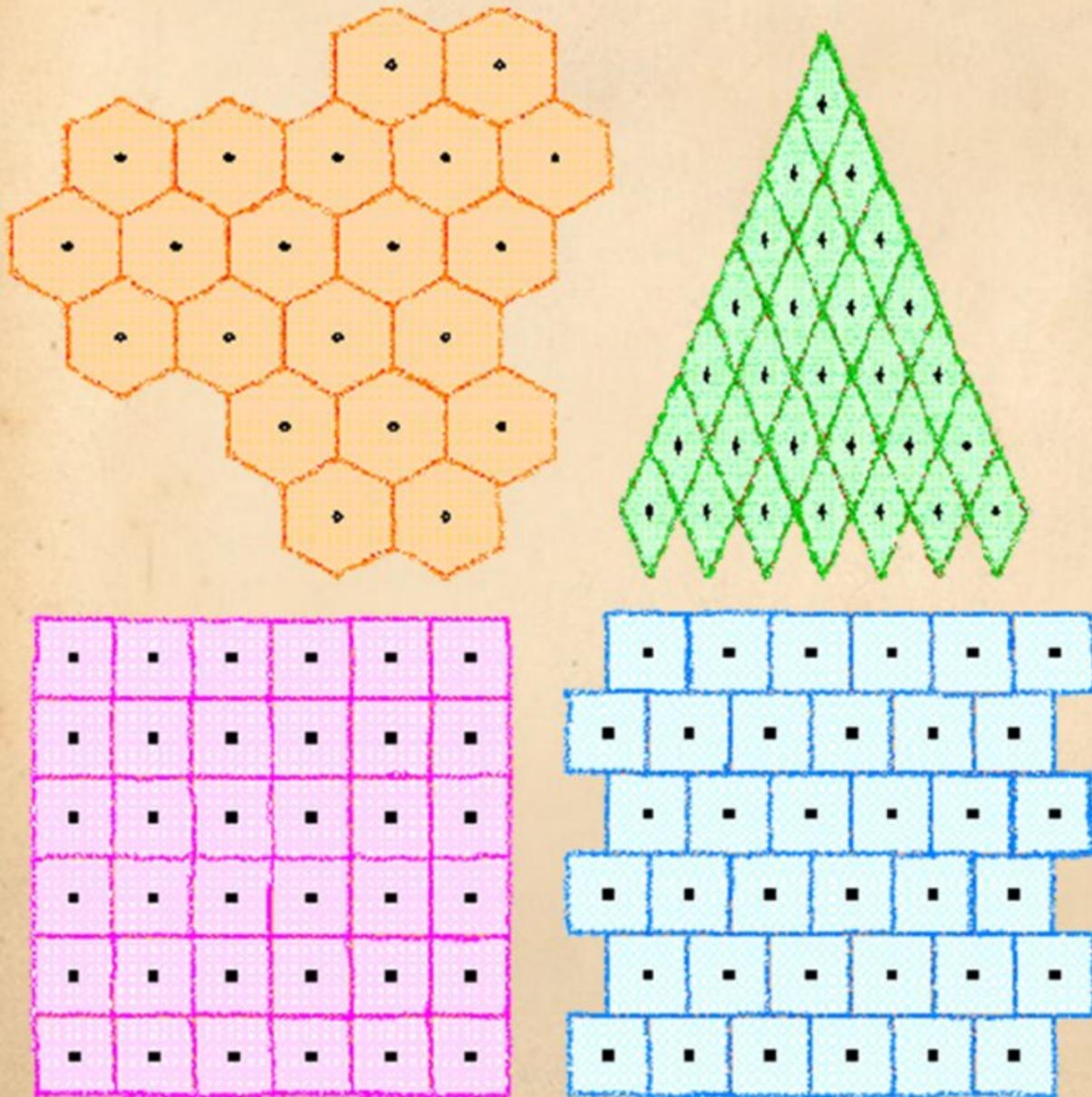
**Restored  
distances**

**Adequate  
oxygen**

# COMPUTER ANGIOGENESIS - RECREATING NATURE

## STEP 1A

### TISSUE & GROWTH MODELS



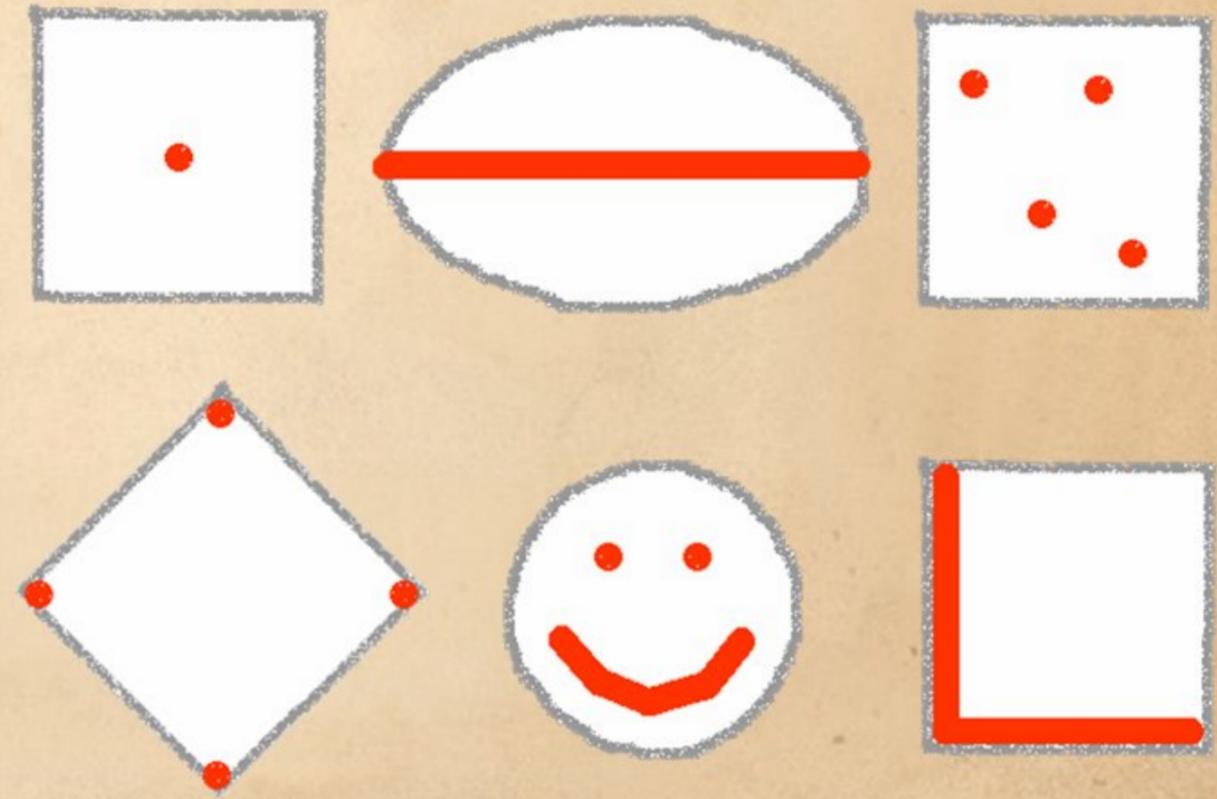
## STEP 1

### SETUP

*Computer modeling  
of angiogenesis  
starts here.*

## STEP 1B

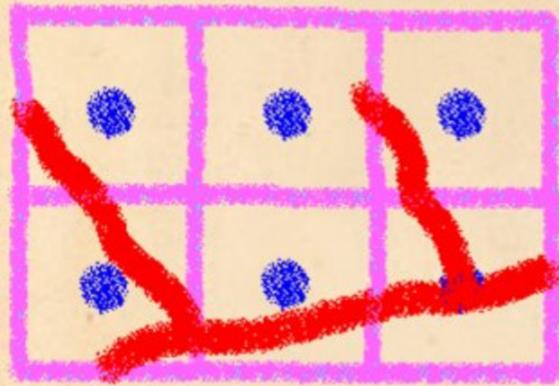
### SEED VESSELS



# COMPUTER ANGIOGENESIS - RECREATING NATURE

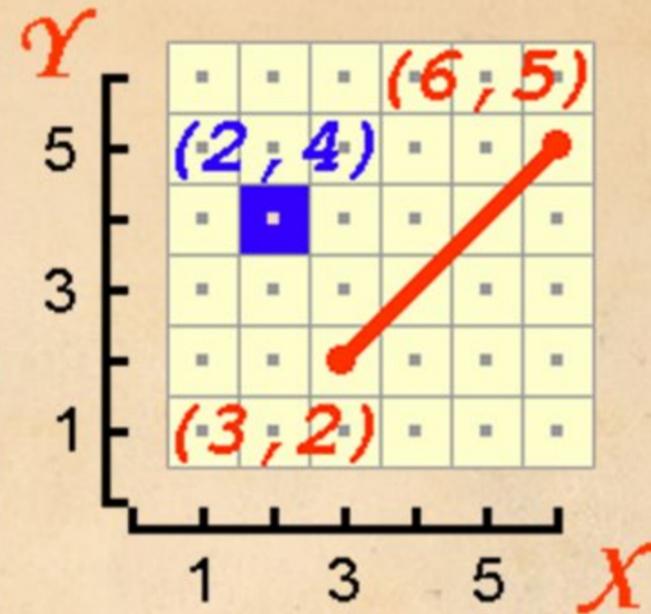
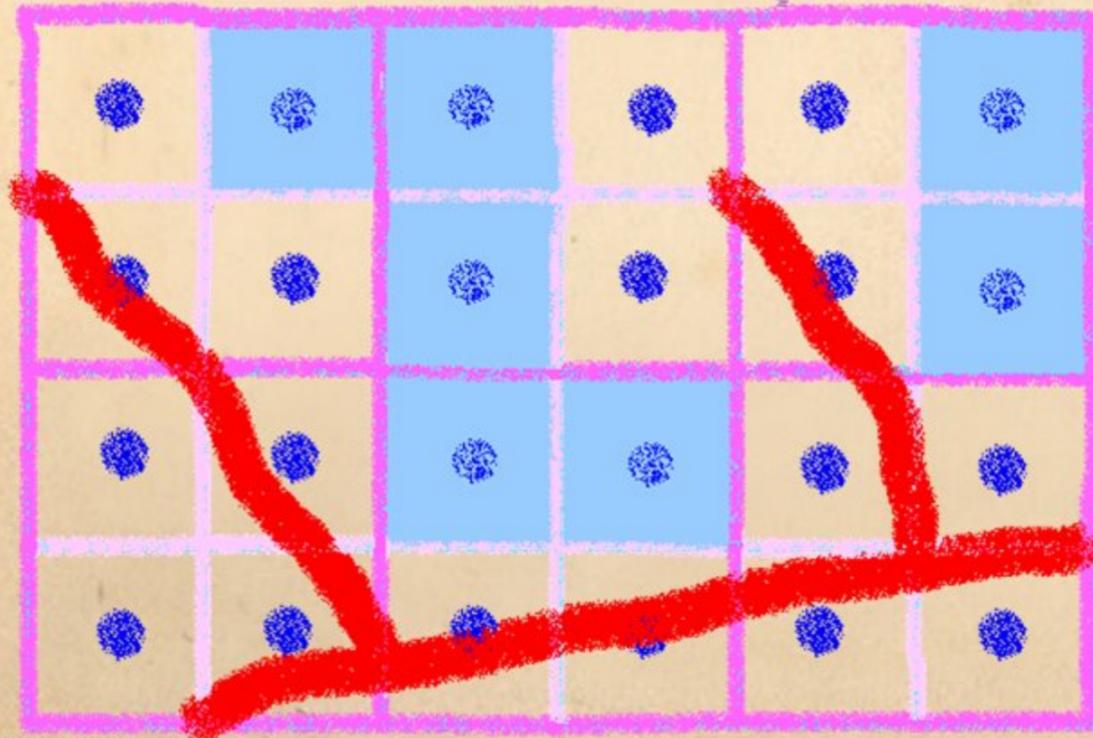
## STEP 2 GROWTH

*This is the start  
of the Main Loop  
"ISAUXESIS"*

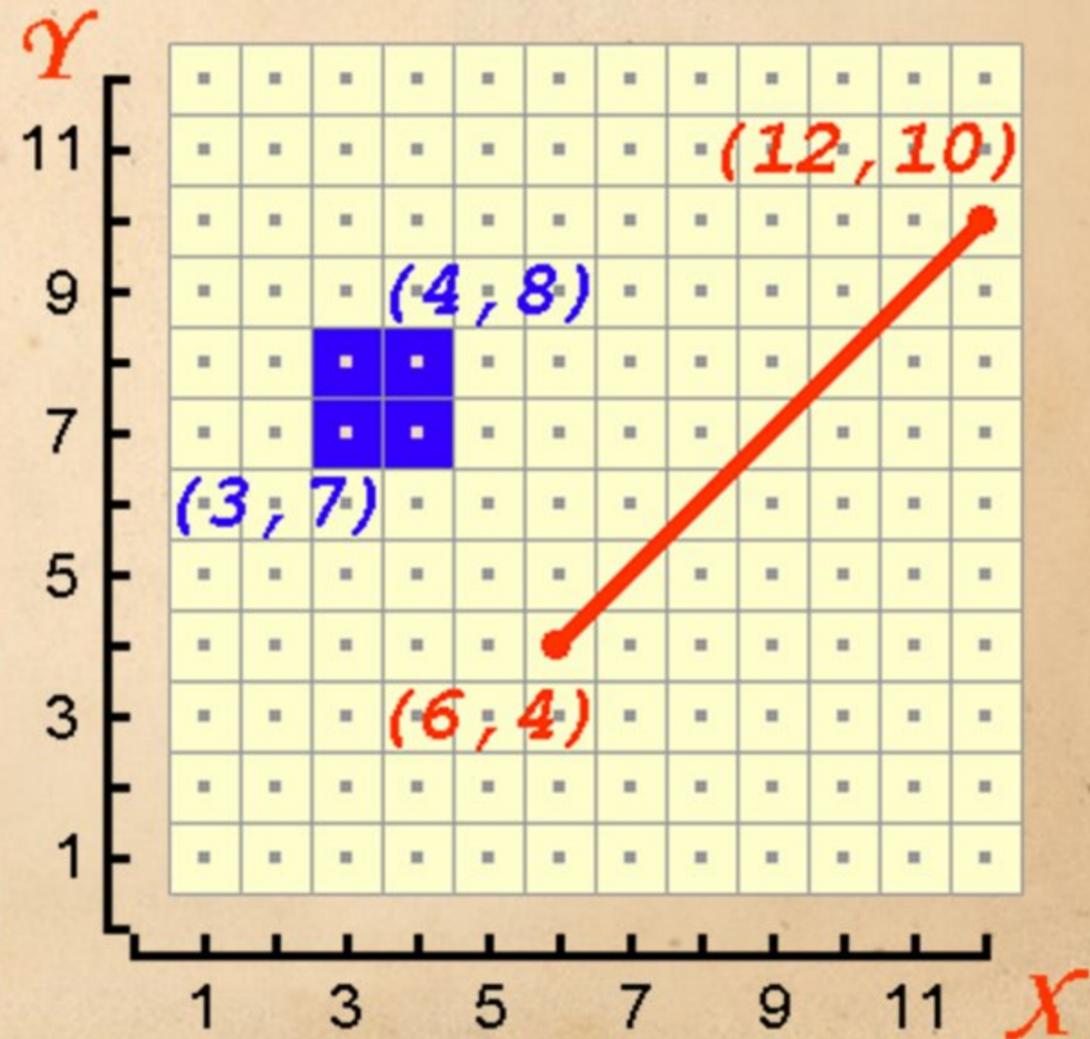


STEP 2A

GROW THE  
TISSUE

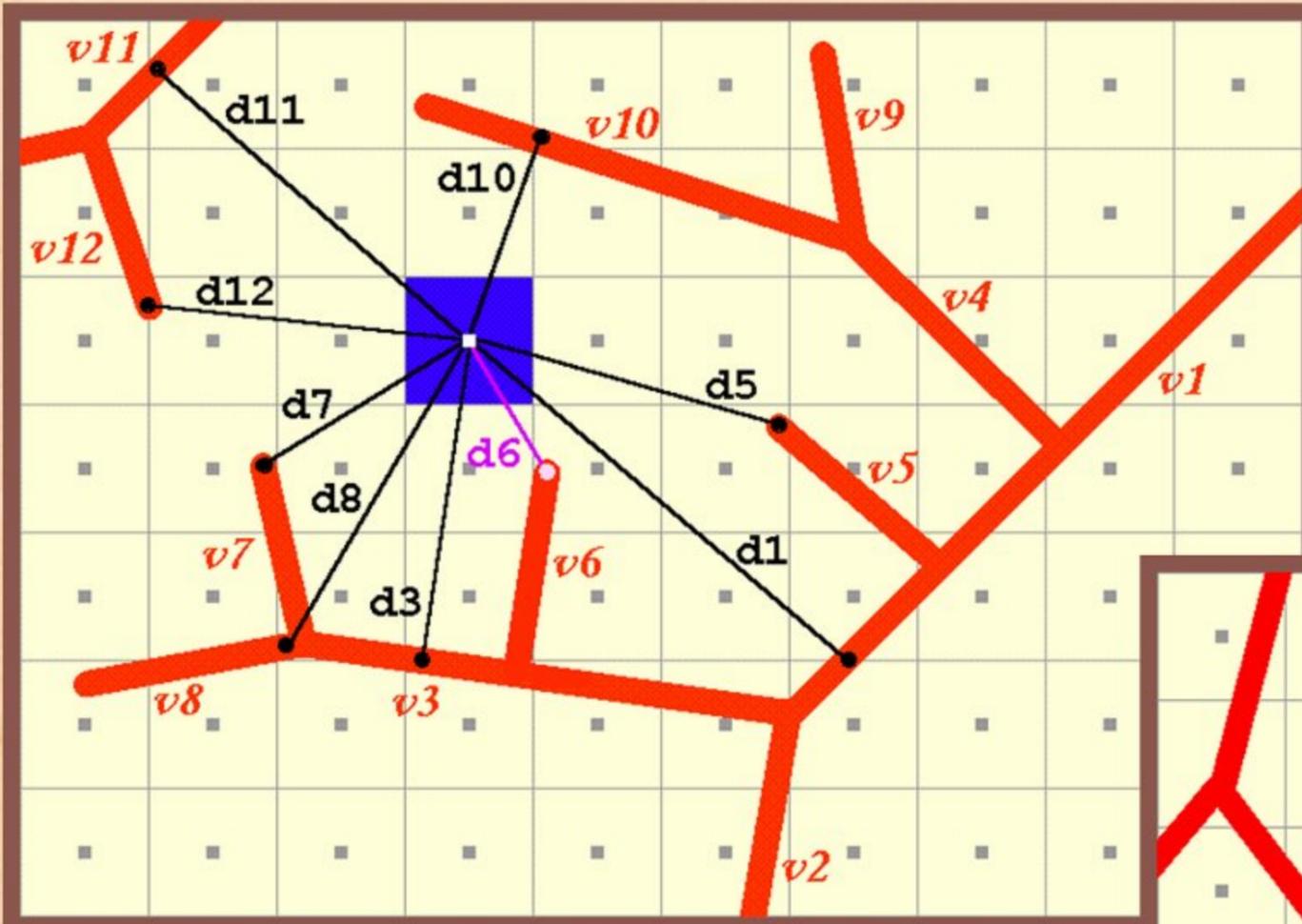


STEP 2B  
MATCHING  
VESSEL GROWTH



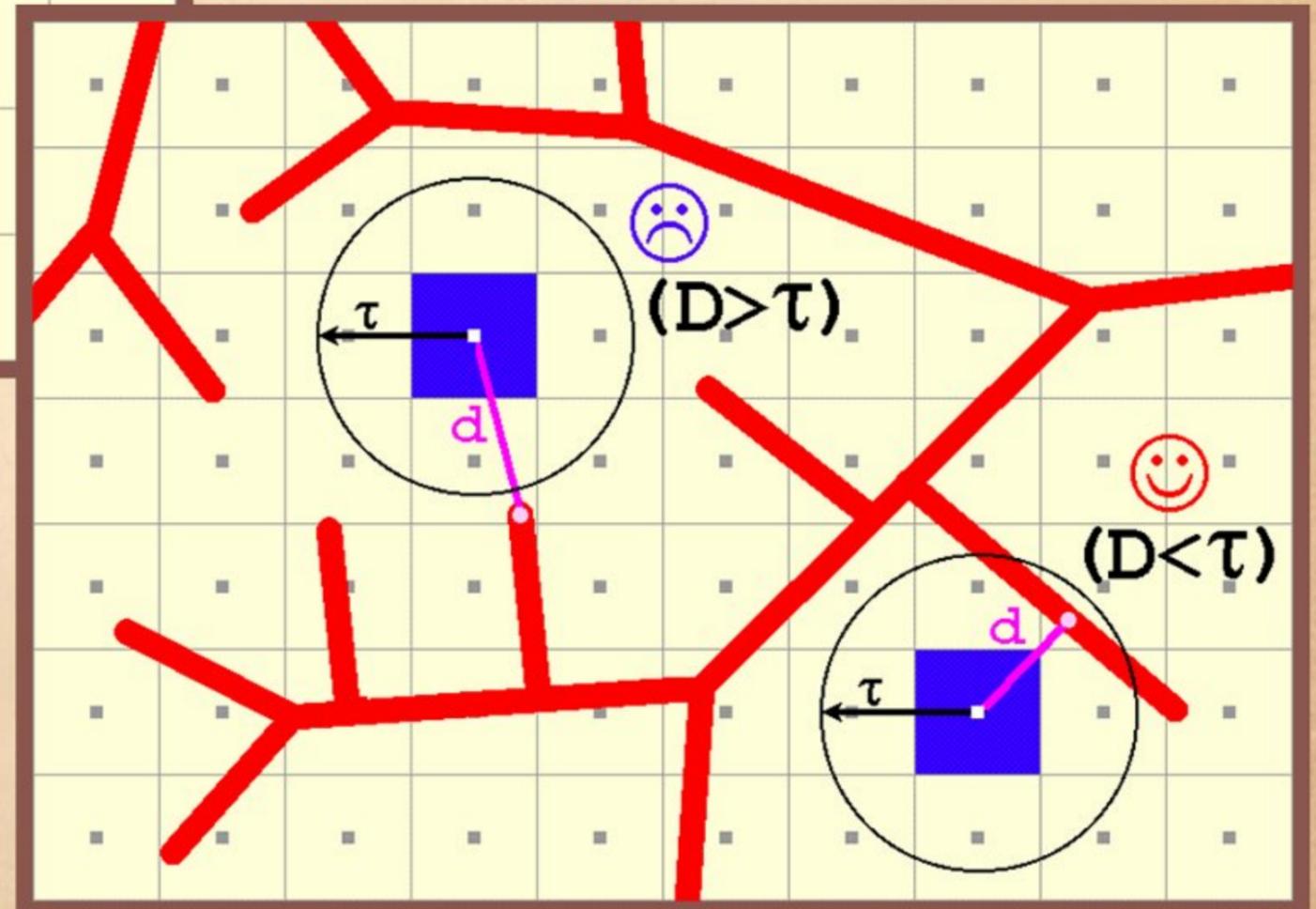
# COMPUTER ANGIOGENESIS - RECREATING NATURE

## STEP 3A FIND DISTANCE



## STEP 3 ISCHEMIA TESTING

## STEP 3B TEST FOR ISCHEMIA

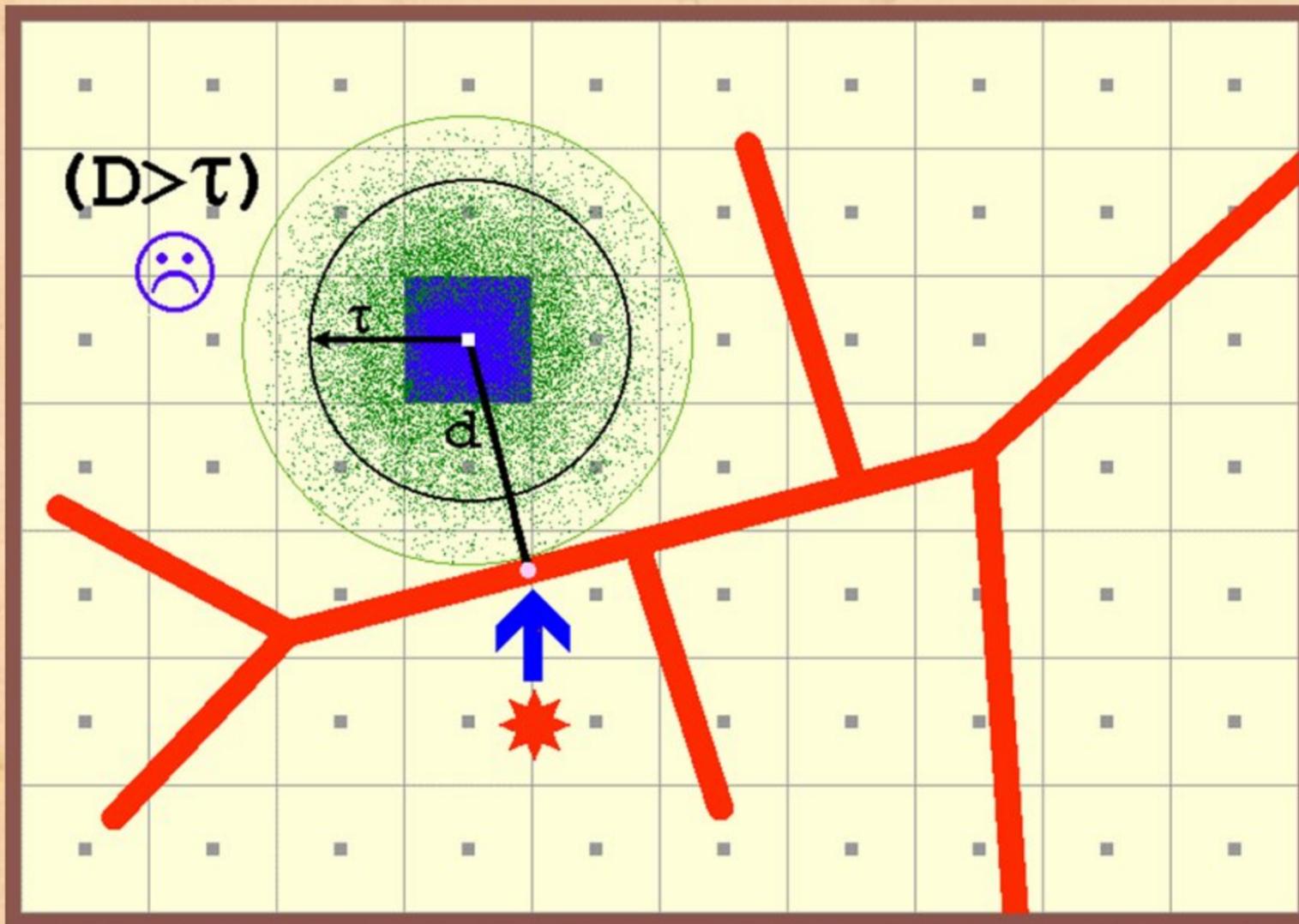


Intrinsic  
Parameter  
# 1  
ischemia  
threshold

$\tau$

$D > \tau$   
=  
ischemia

# COMPUTER ANGIOGENESIS - RECREATING NATURE



STEP 4  
SPROUTING

STEP 4A ORIGINATE

*parameters*  
=  
*one + three*

**G**

Extrinsic  
Element

# 0

growth  
model

Intrinsic  
Parameter

# 1

**$\tau$**

ischemia  
threshold

Intrinsic  
Parameter

# 2

**R**

vessel  
reach

Intrinsic  
Parameter

# 3

**A**

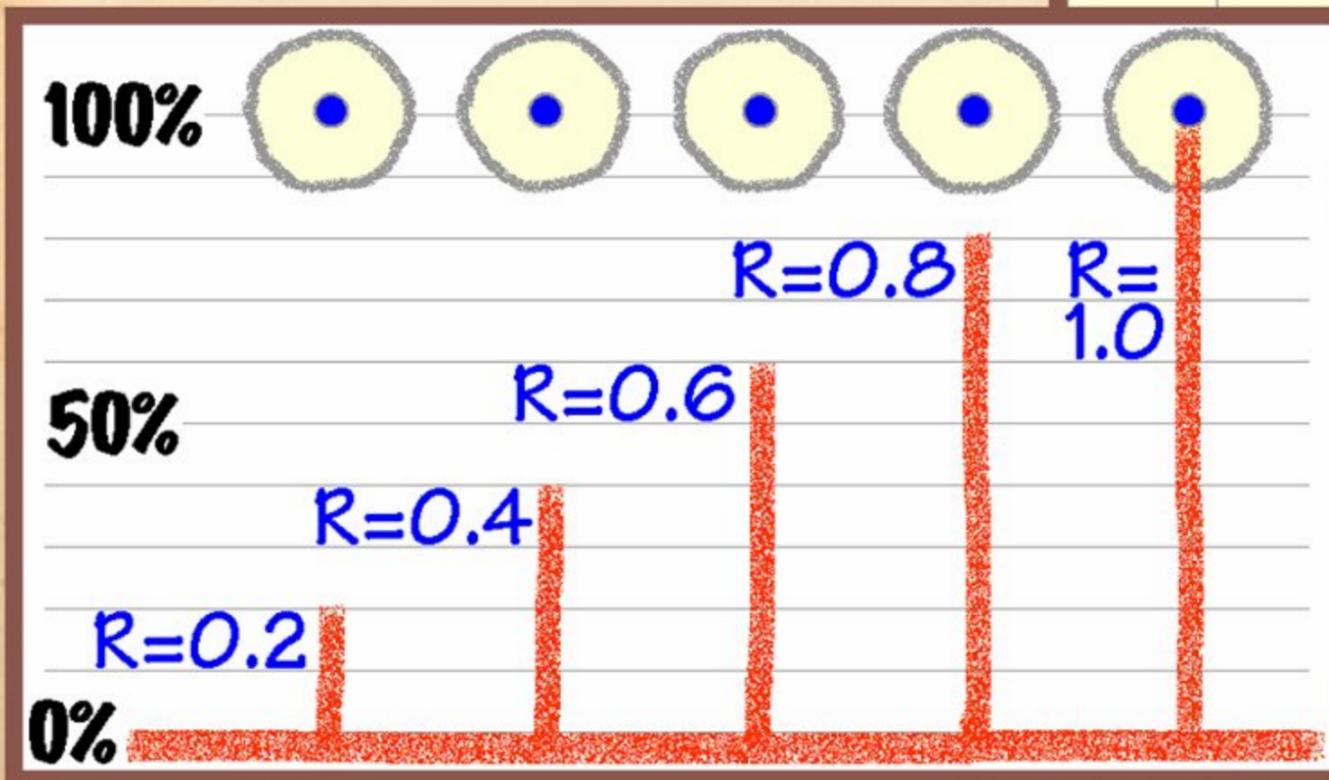
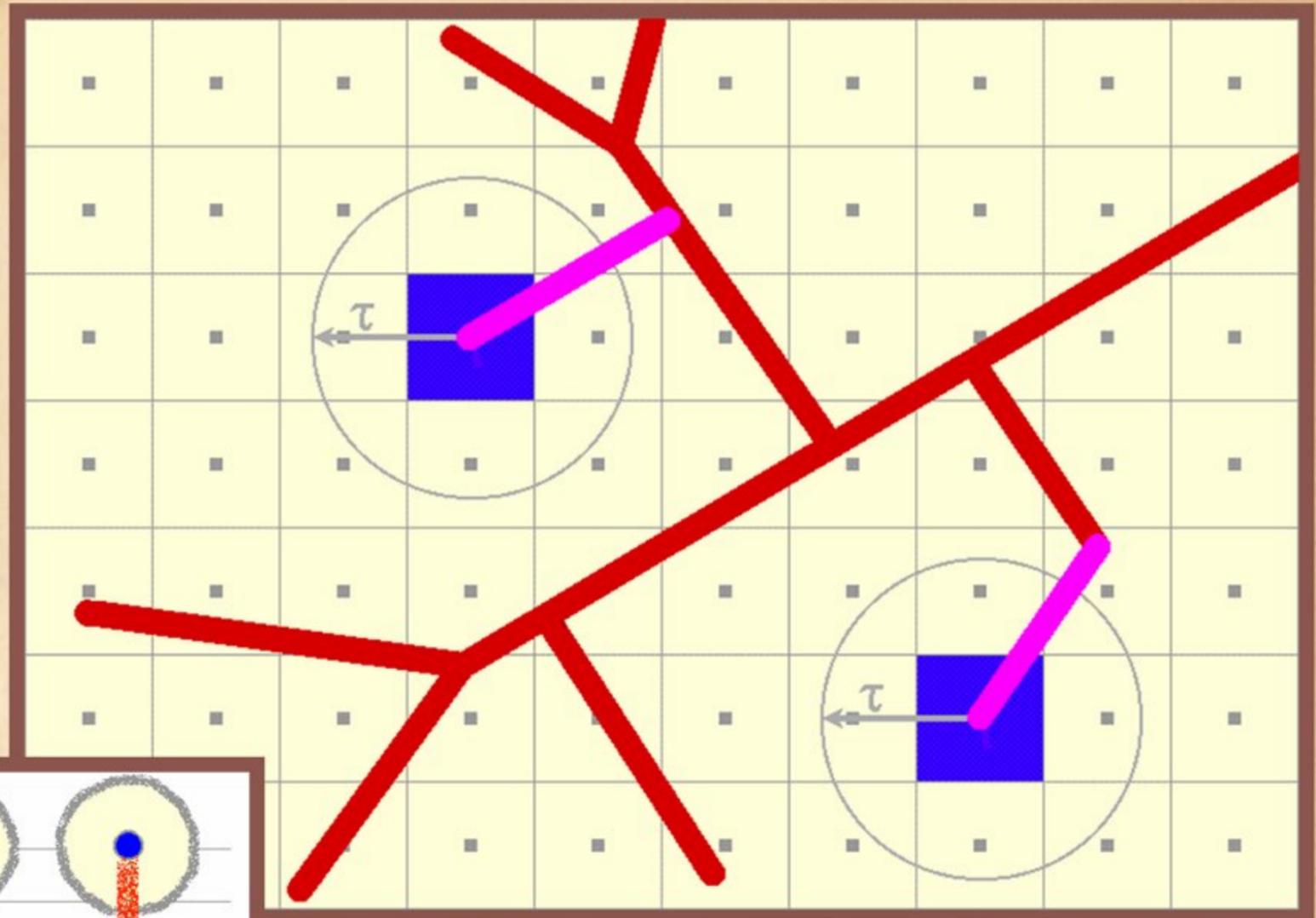
multiple  
sprout zone

# COMPUTER ANGIOGENESIS - RECREATING NATURE

STEP 4  
SPROUTING

STEP 4B  
VESSEL REACH

$$0 \leq R \leq 1$$

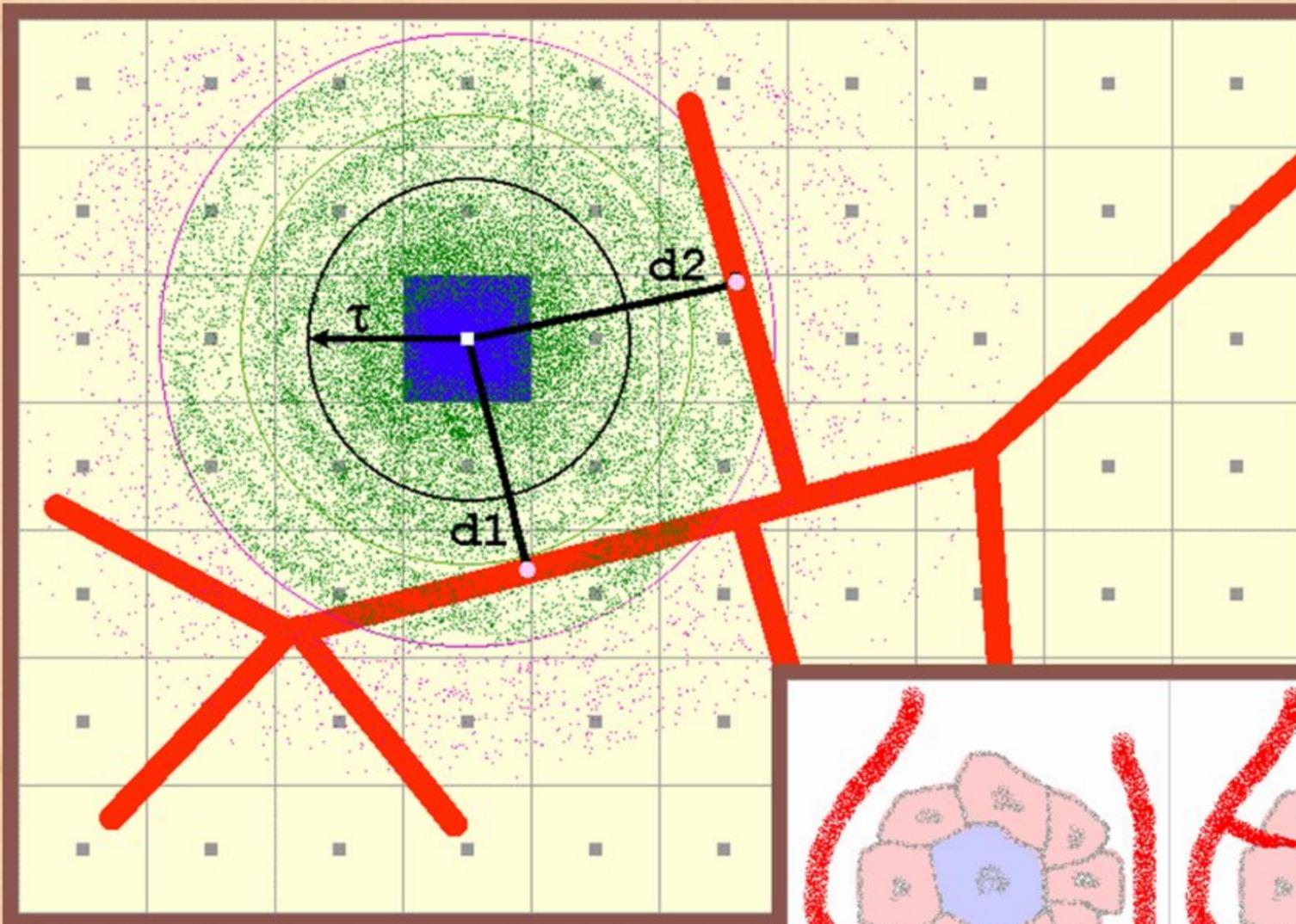


*two  
constructs*

Intrinsic  
Parameter  
# 2  
vessel  
reach

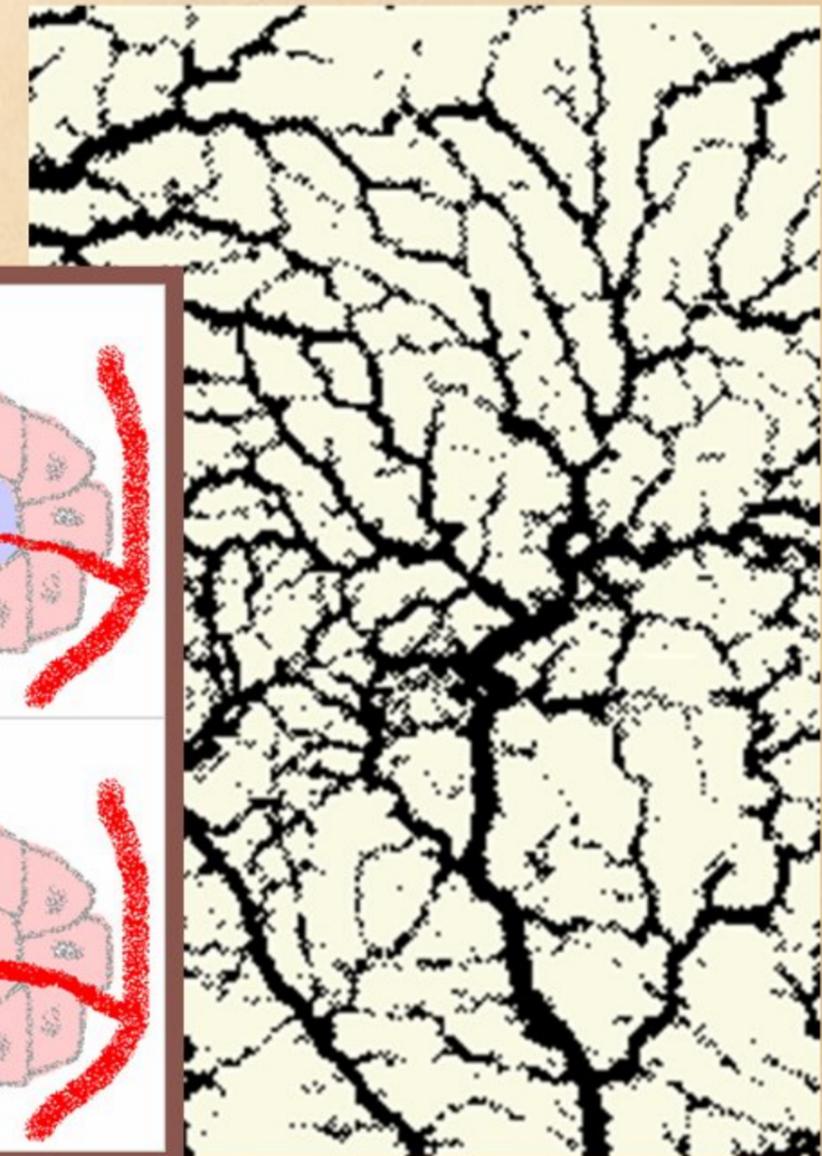
**R**

# COMPUTER ANGIOGENESIS - RECREATING NATURE



STEP 4  
SPROUTING

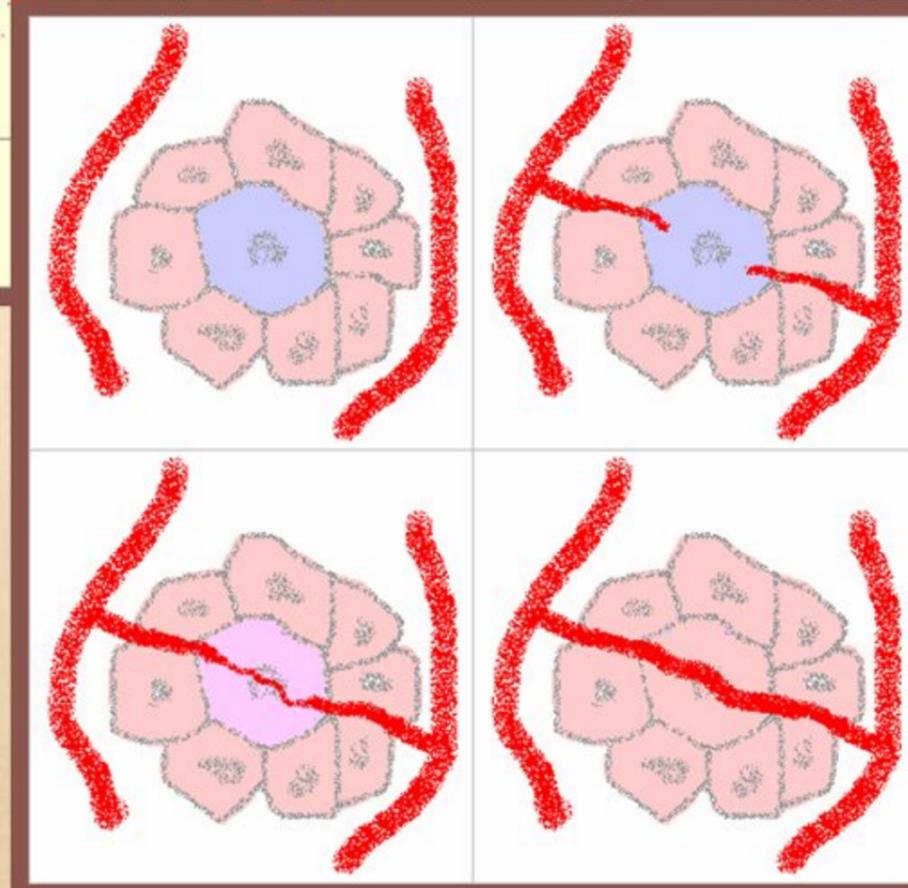
STEP 4C MULTIPLES



*a  
n  
a  
s  
t  
o  
m  
o  
s  
e  
s*

Intrinsic  
Parameter  
# 3  
multiple  
sprout zone

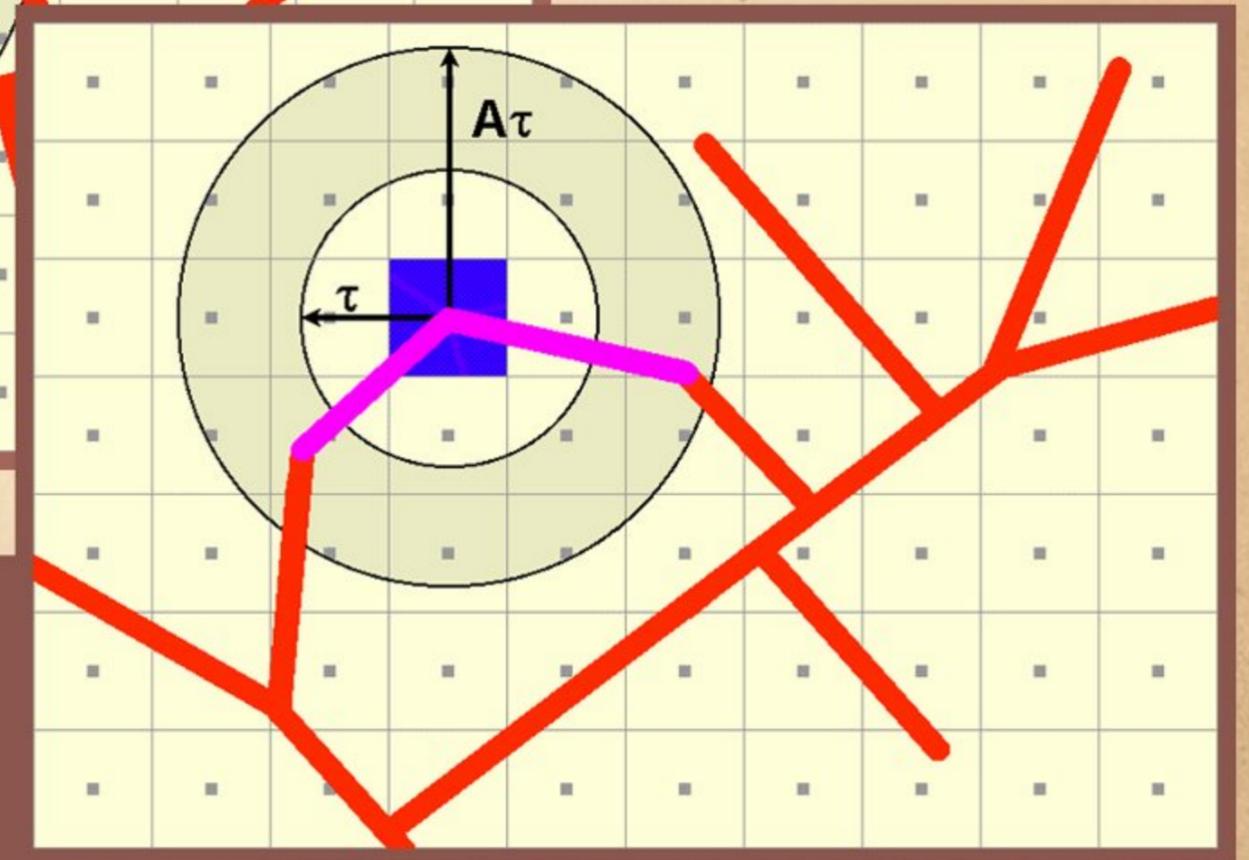
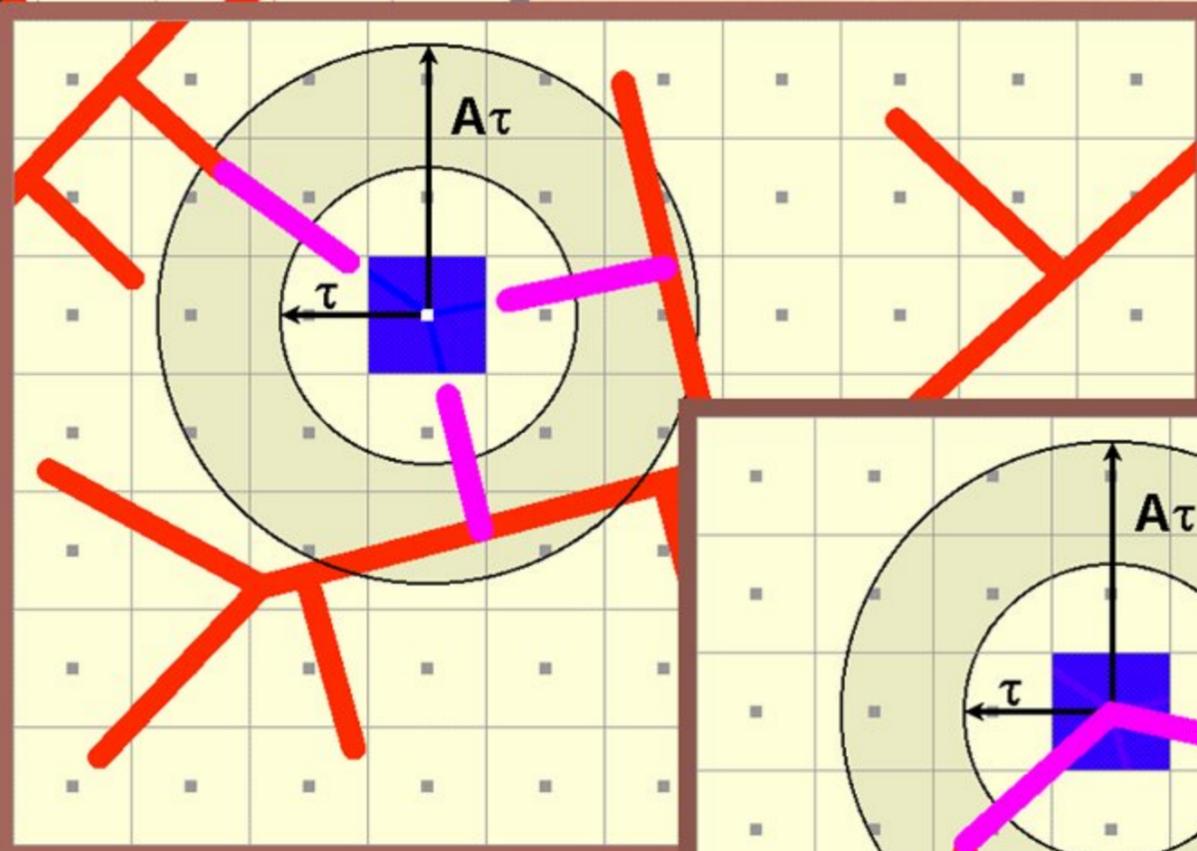
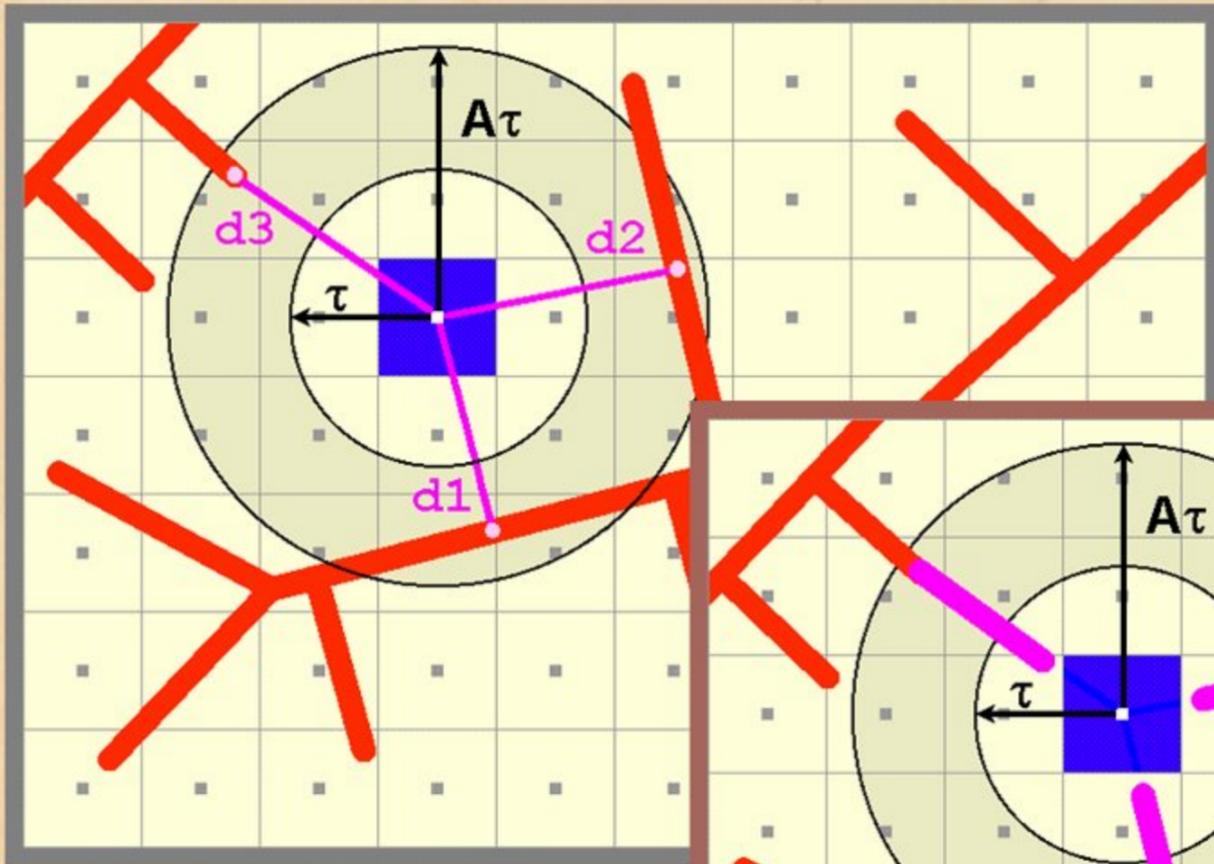
A



# COMPUTER ANGIOGENESIS - RECREATING NATURE

STEP 4 SPROUTING

STEP 4D ANASTOMOSES

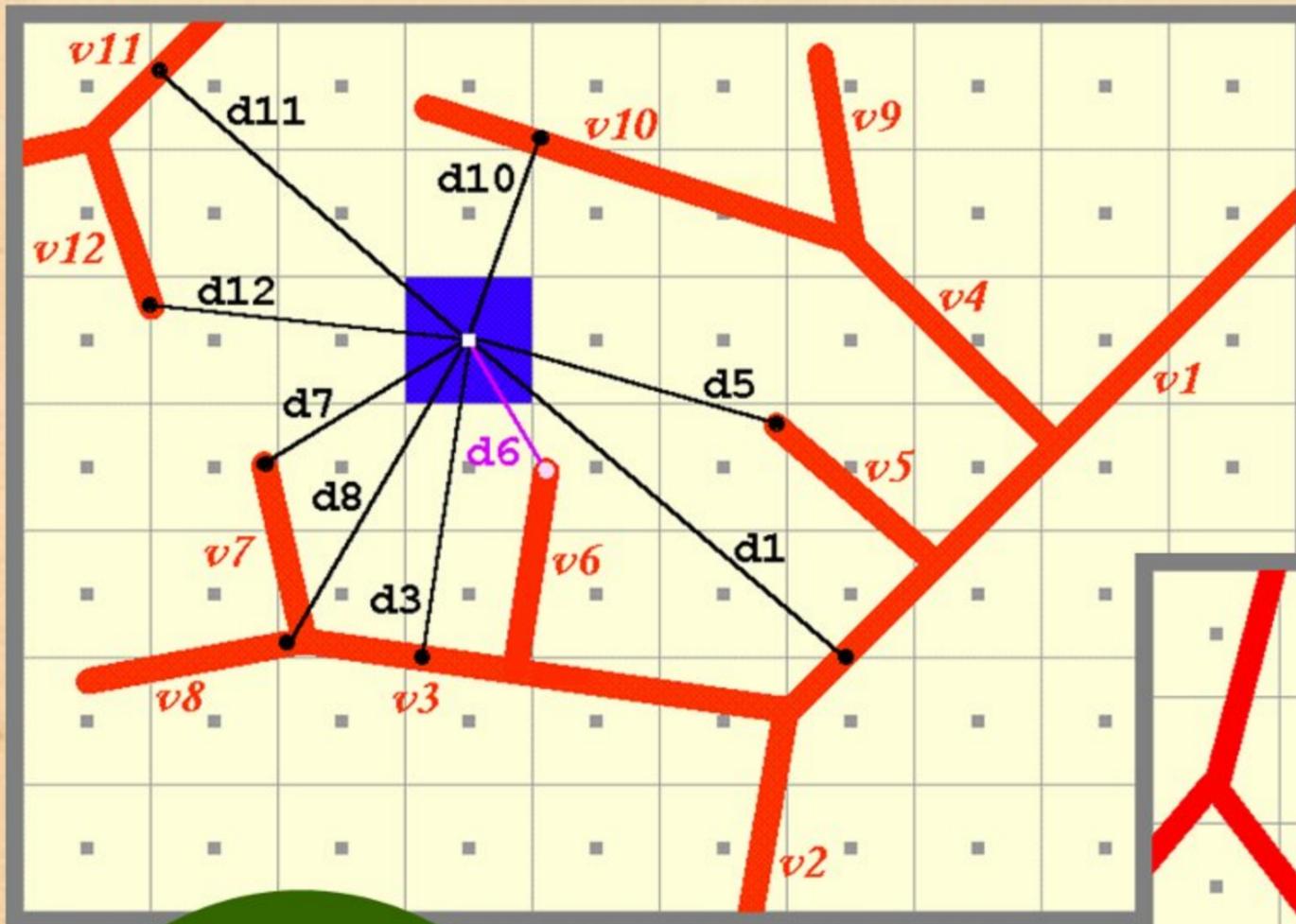


**$R < 1$**

**$R = 1$**

# COMPUTER ANGIOGENESIS - RECREATING NATURE

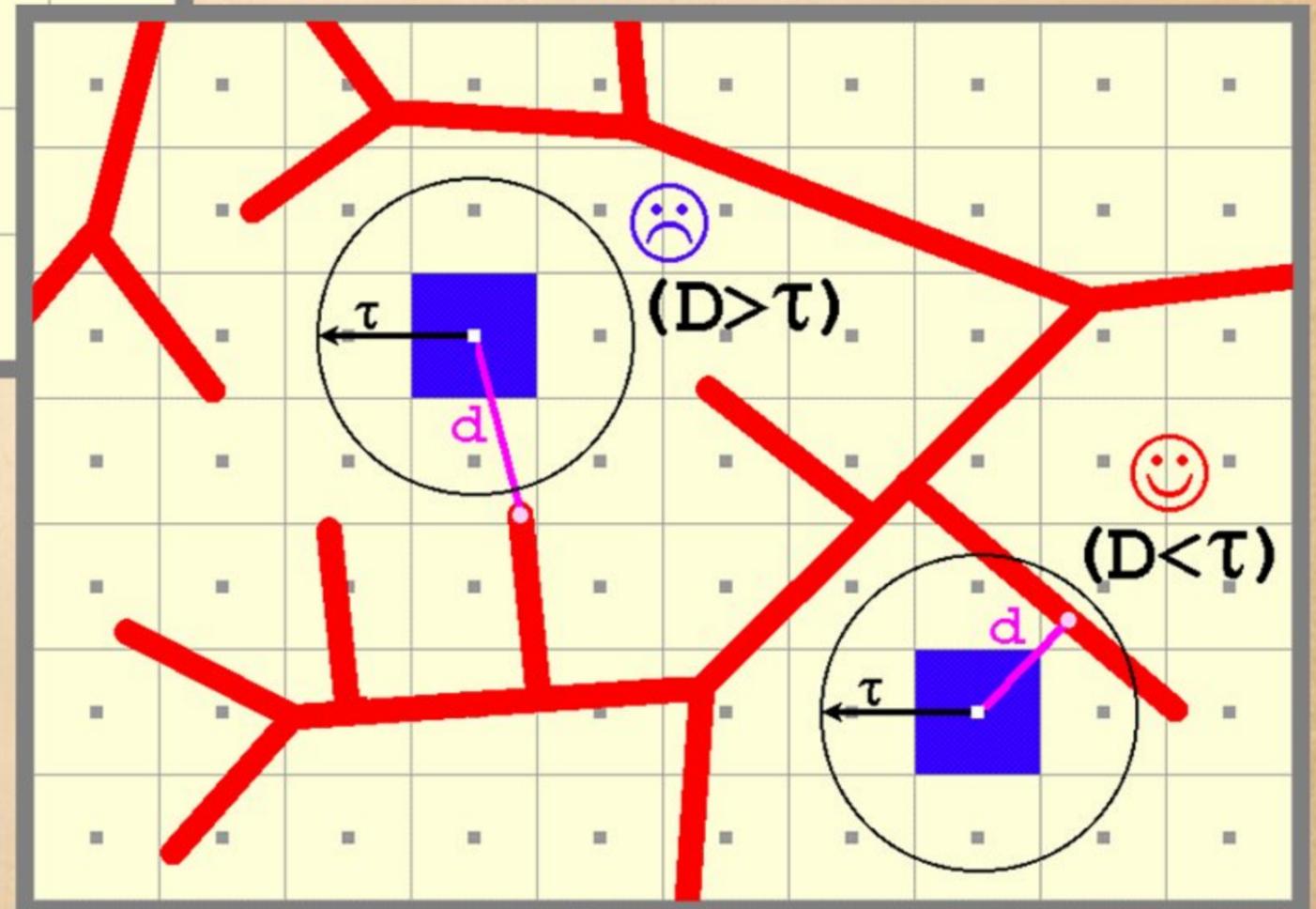
## STEP 3A FIND DISTANCE



## STEP 3 ISCHEMIA TESTING

*iterate: cell - by - cell*

## STEP 3B TEST FOR ISCHEMIA

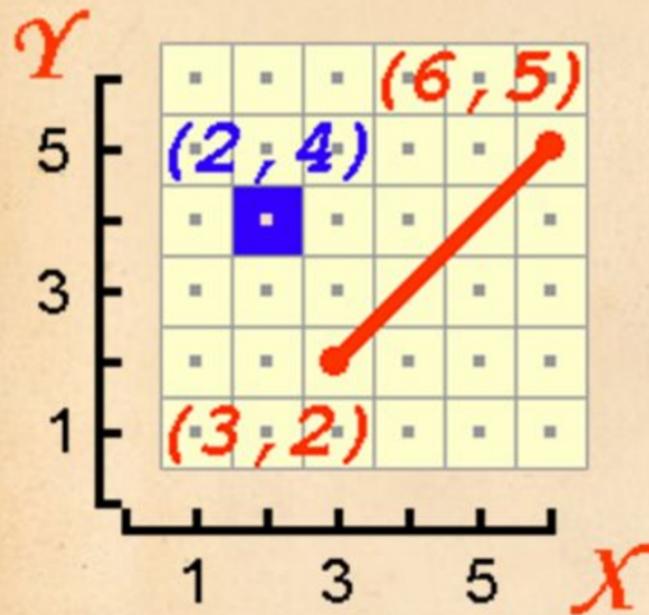


*repeat  
for  
each cell*

$D > \tau$   
=  
ischemia

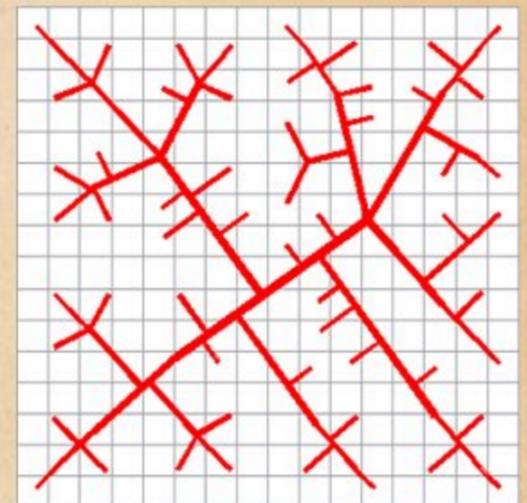
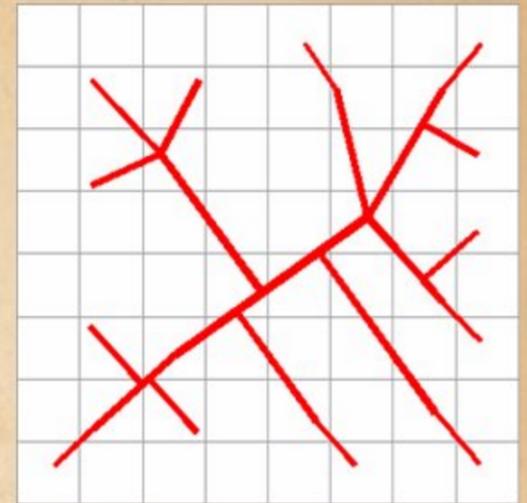
# COMPUTER ANGIOGENESIS - RECREATING NATURE

*Back to the start of the Main Loop*



*iterate the growth cycle*

STEP 2 GROWTH

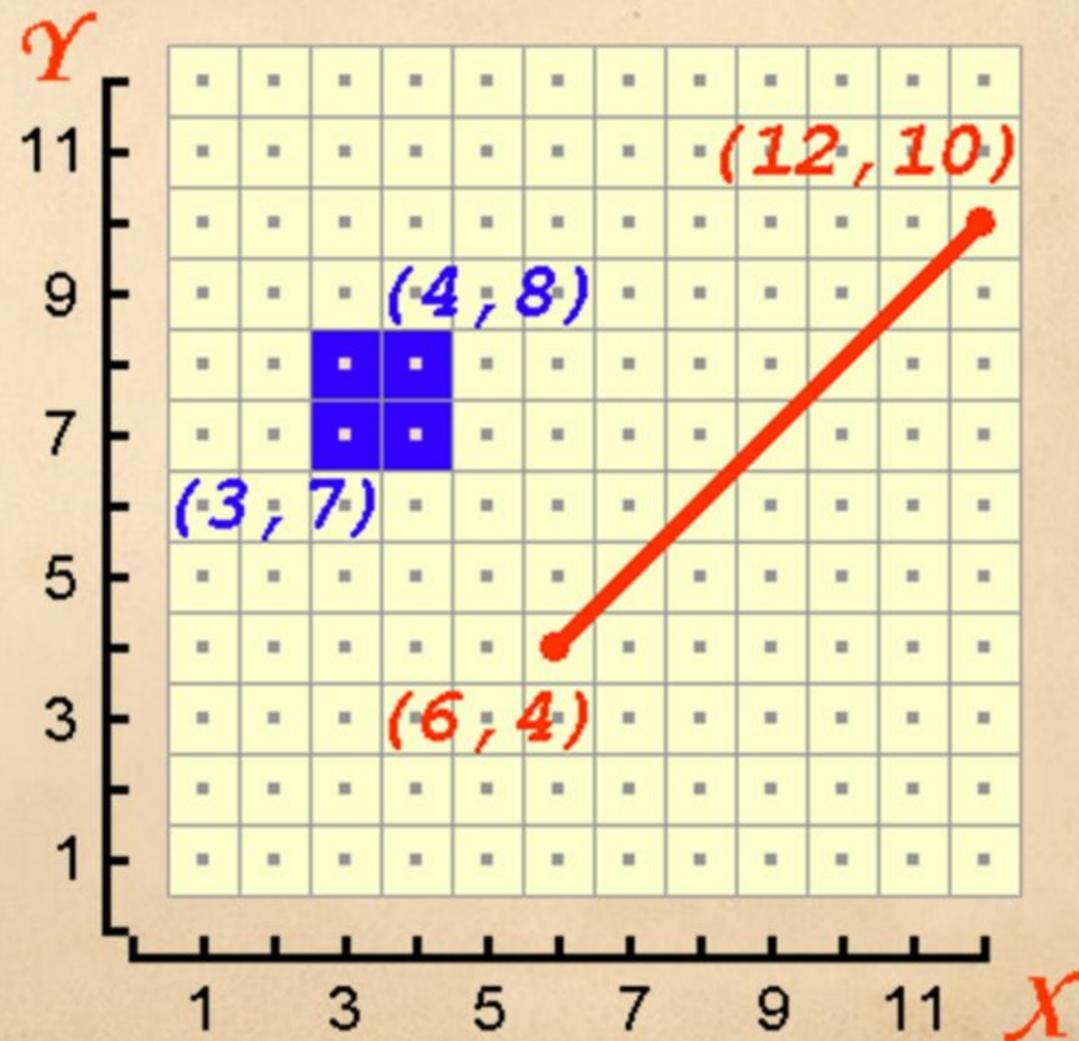


STEP 2A

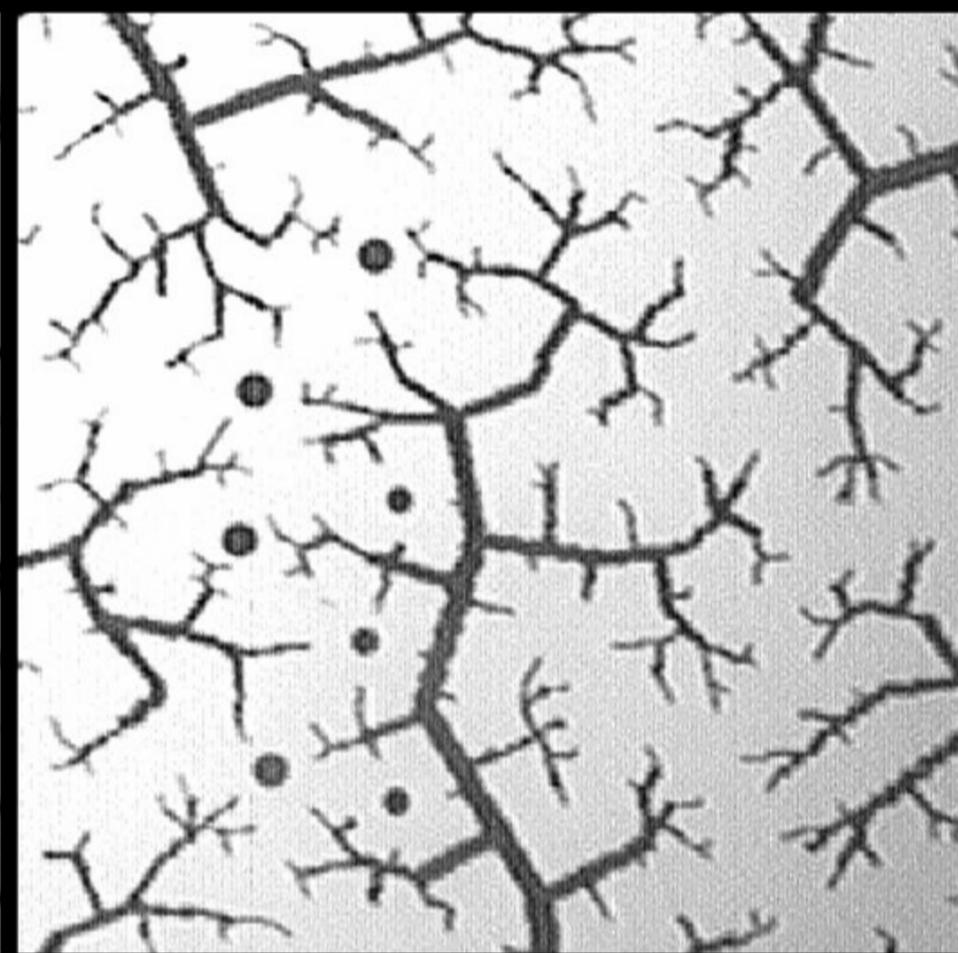
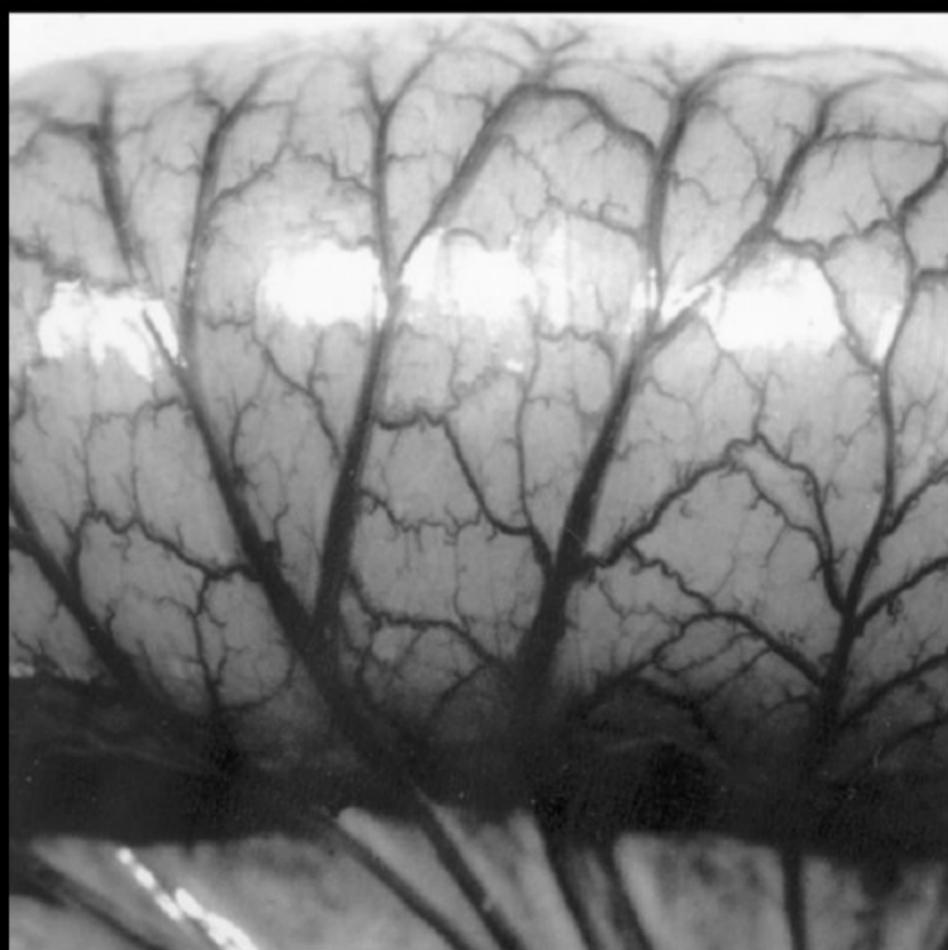
GROW THE  
TISSUE

STEP 2B

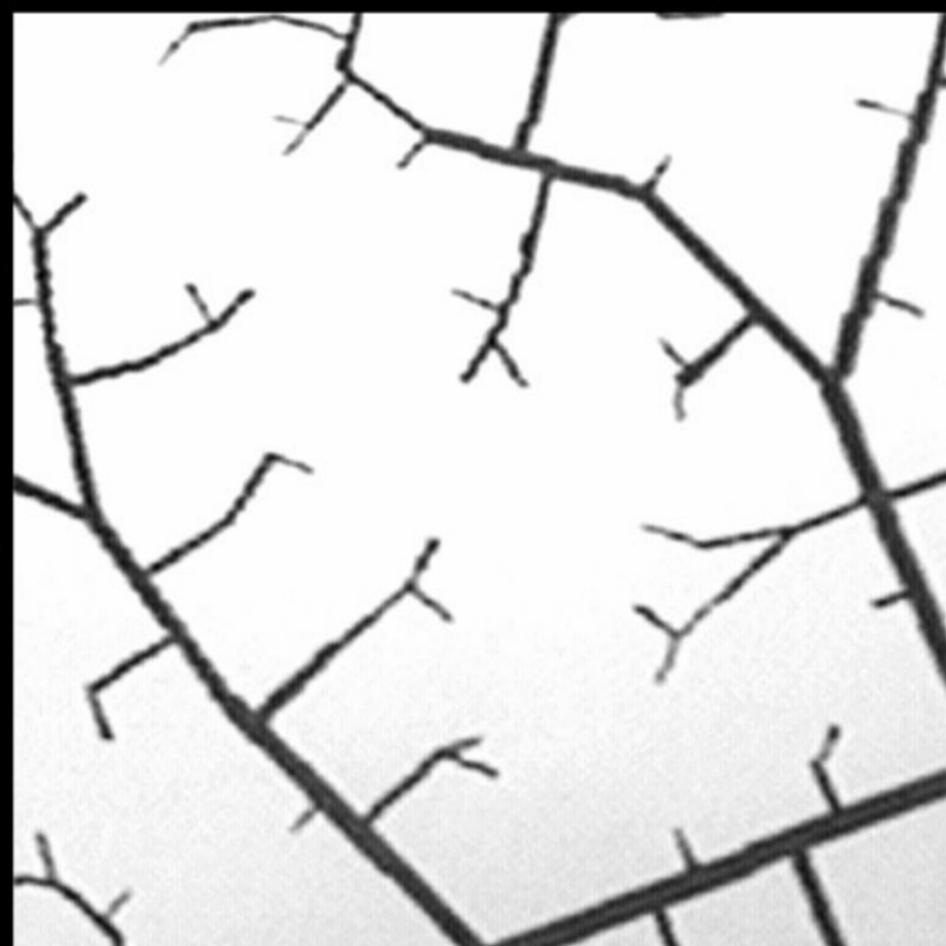
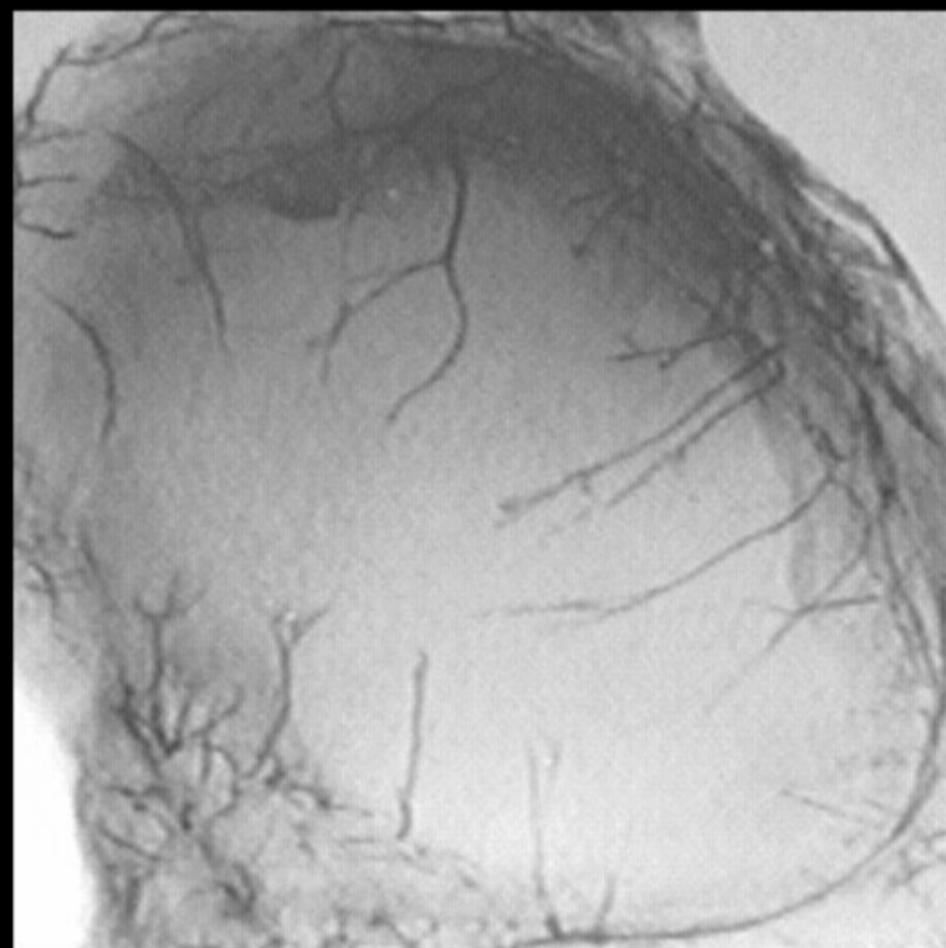
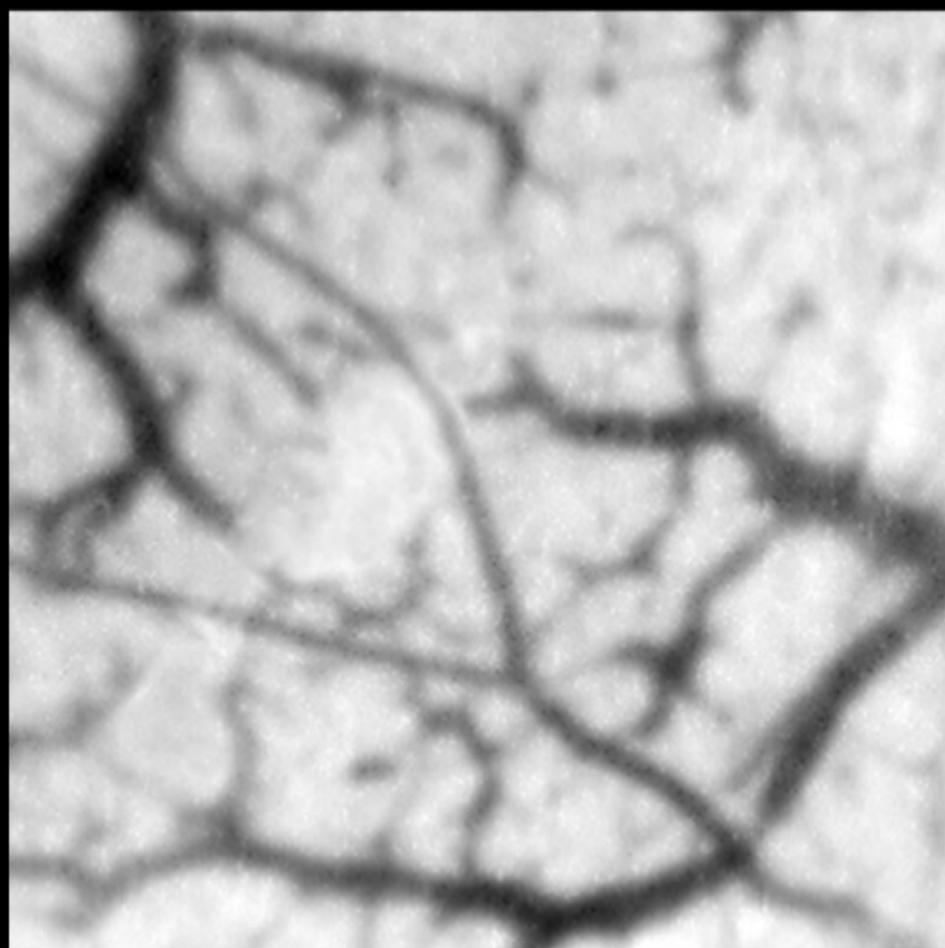
MATCHING  
VESSEL GROWTH



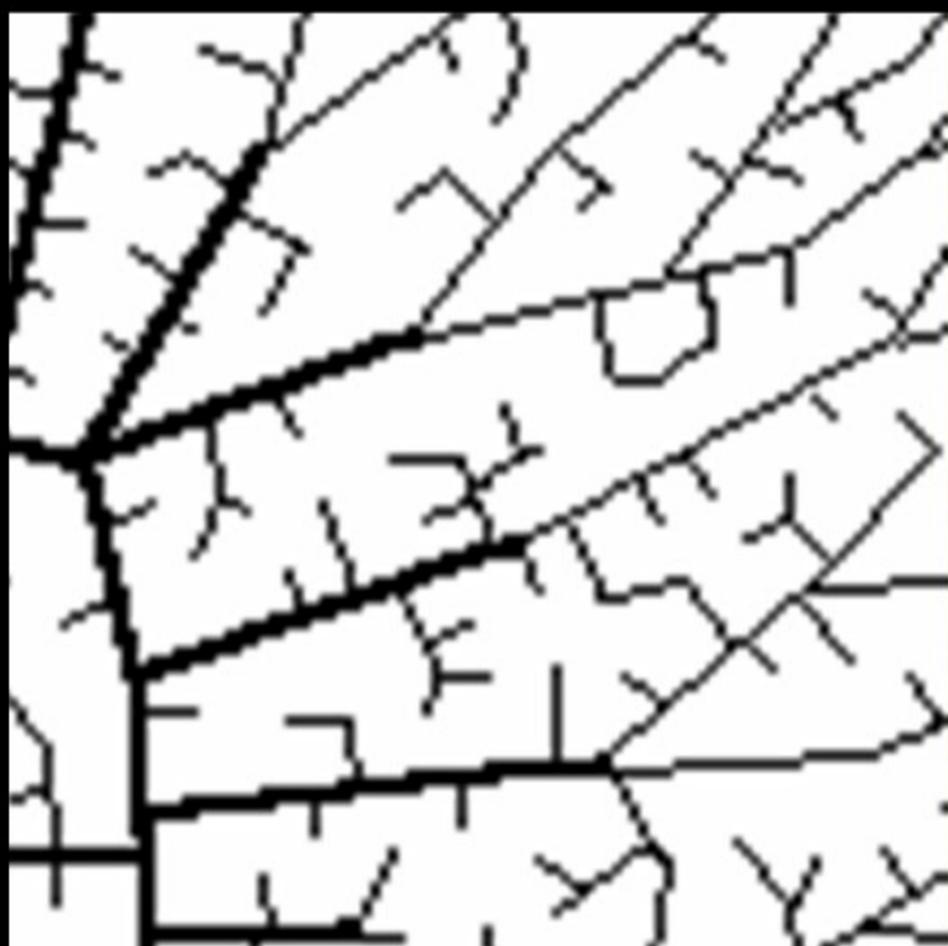
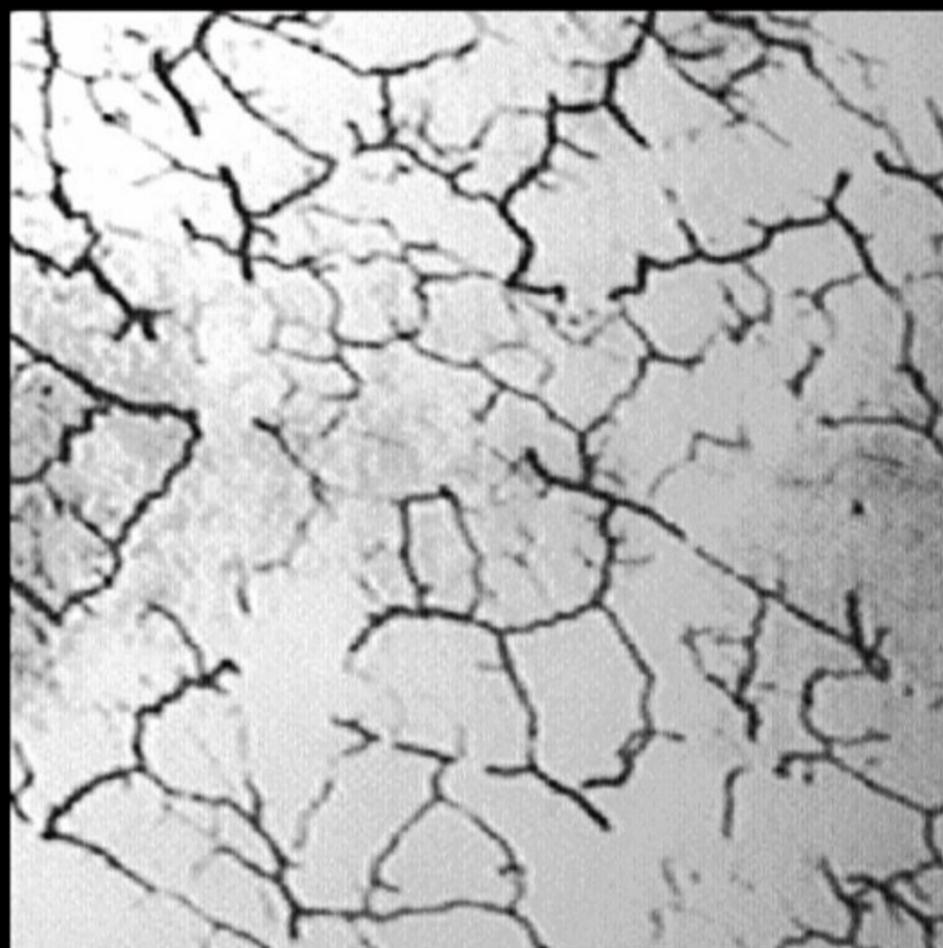
# Real Vessels & Computer Vessels :: Side-by-Side

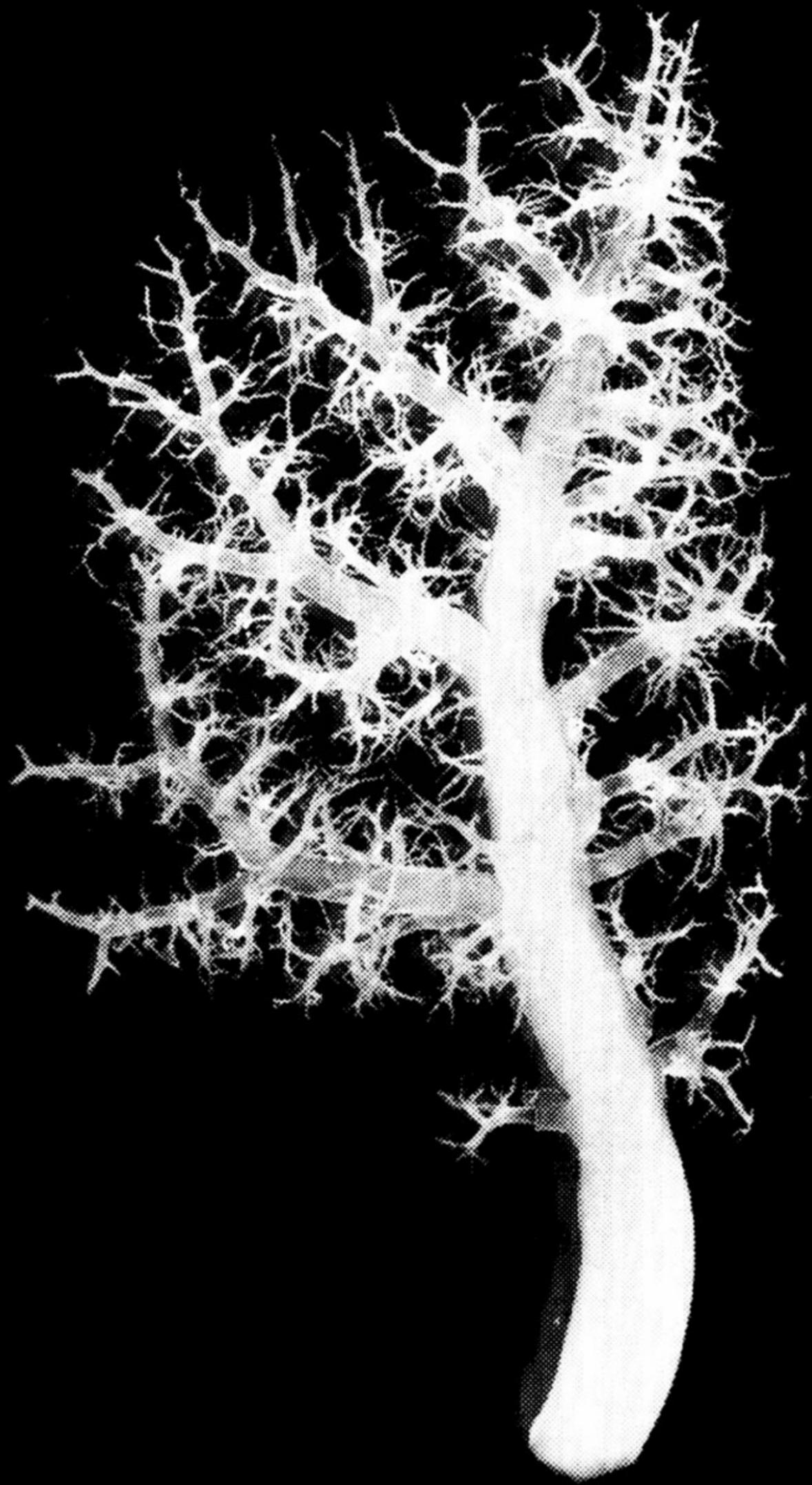


# Real Vessels & Computer Vessels :: Side-by-Side



# Real Vessels & Computer Vessels :: Side-by-Side





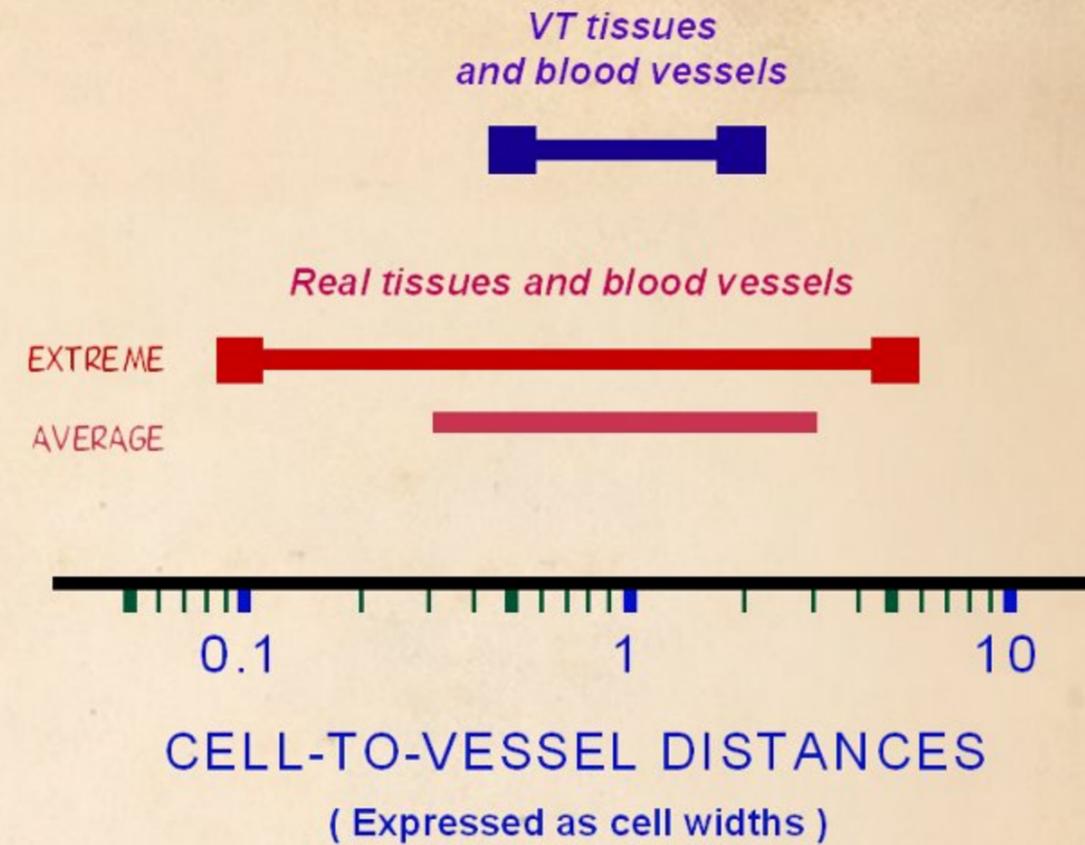
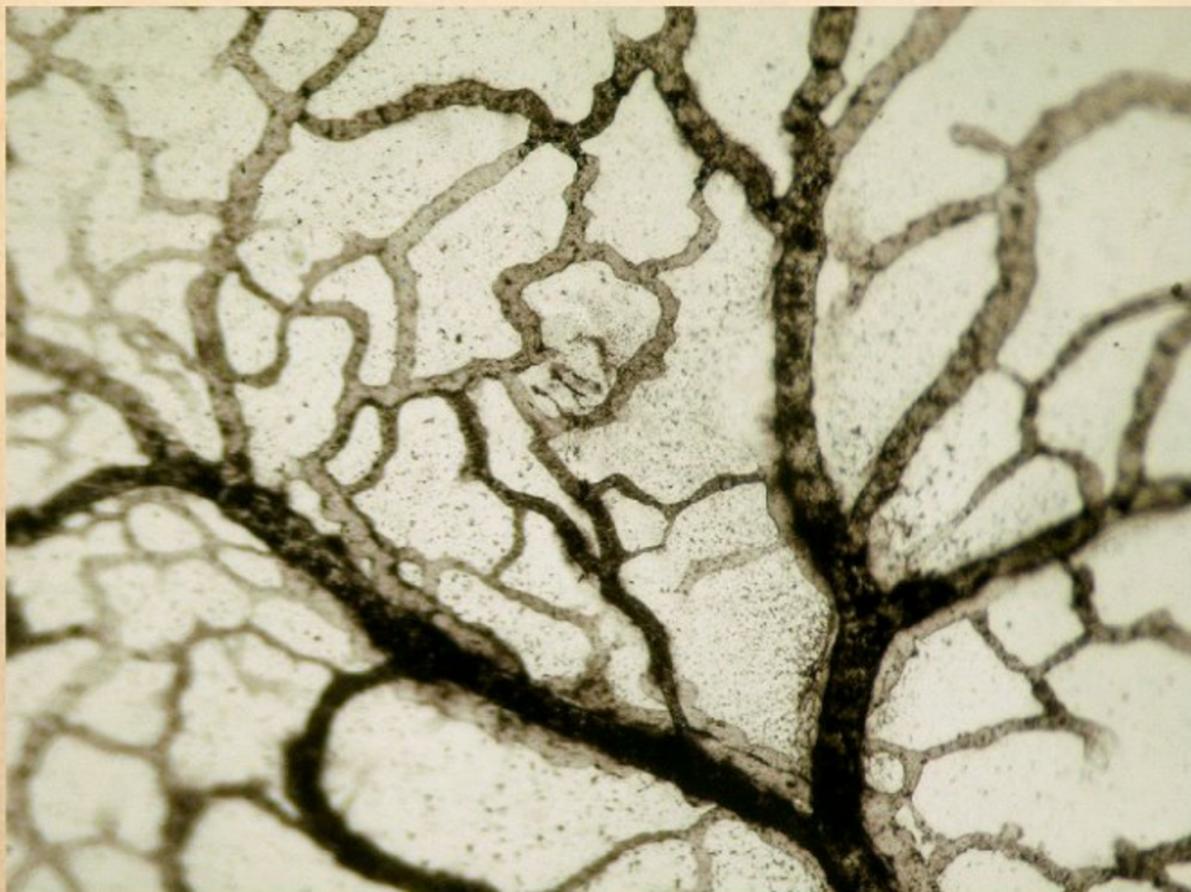


**Arteries and veins**

**Capillaries**

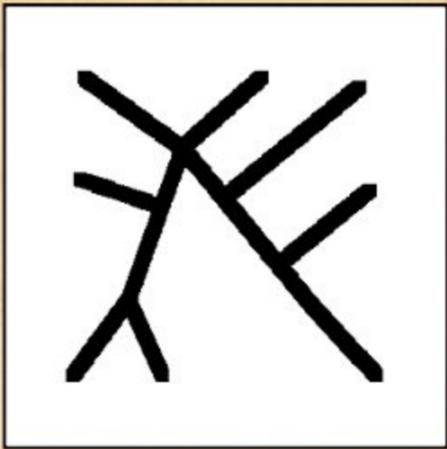
**Vessel diameters**

**2D versus 3D**

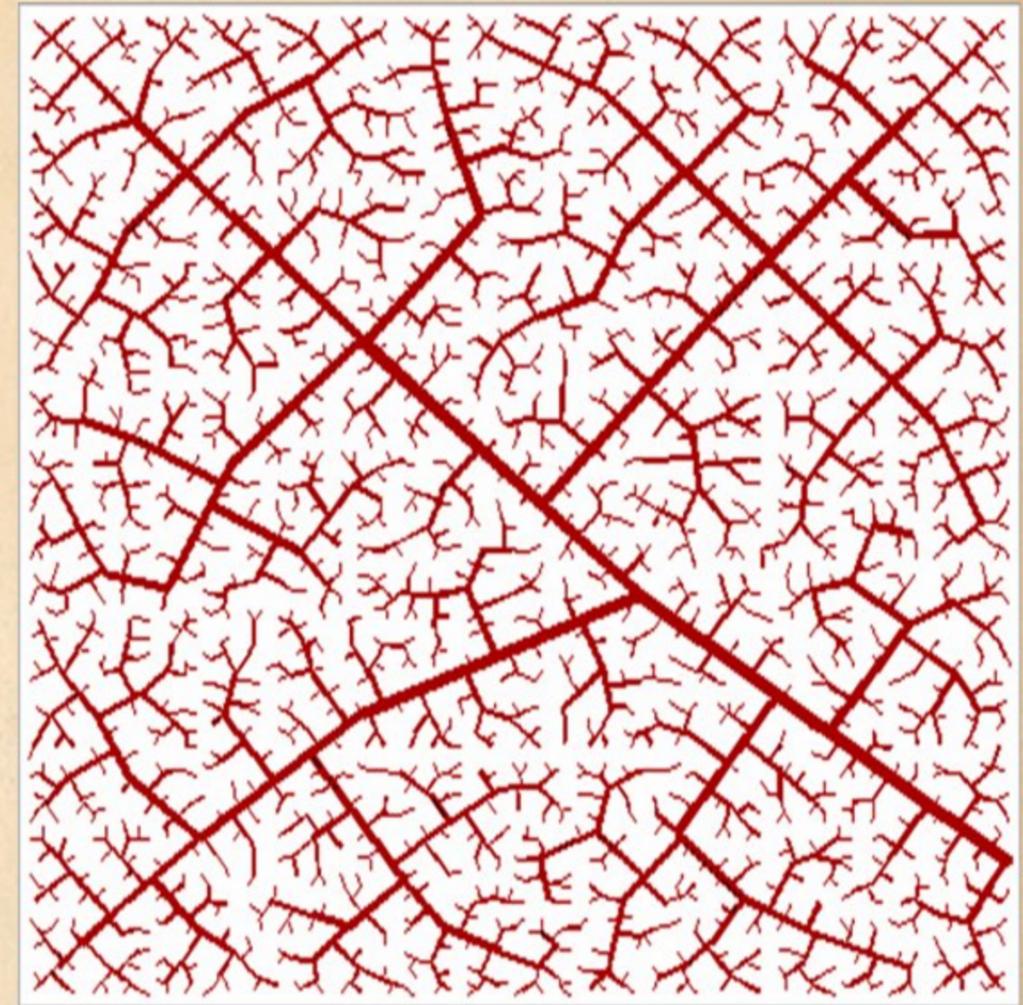
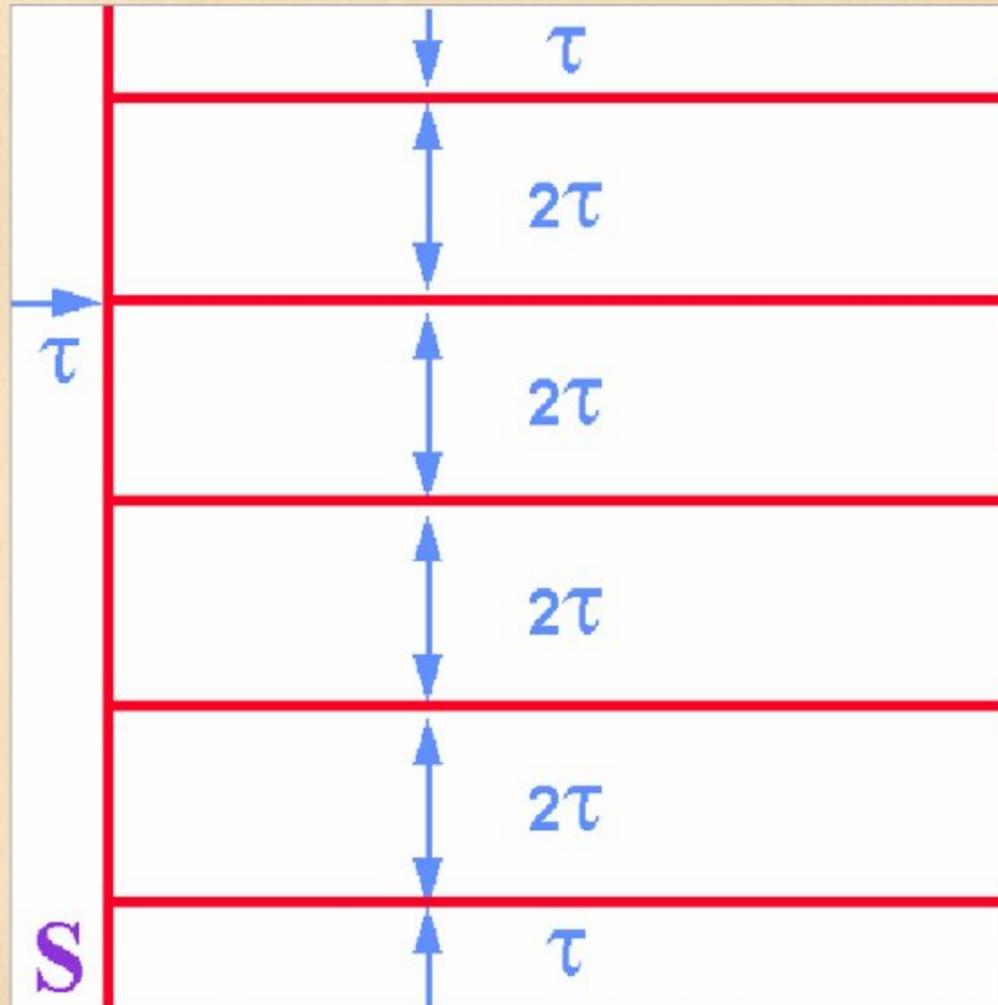
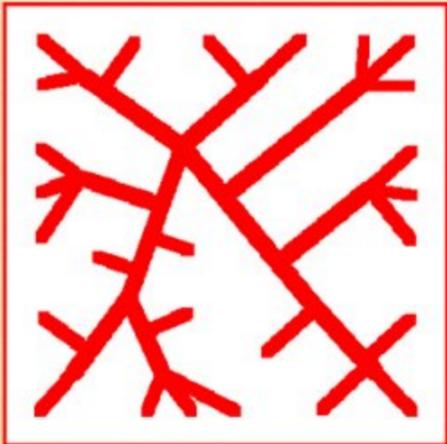


**Realistic parameter choices  
closely match real  
cell-to-vessel distances.**

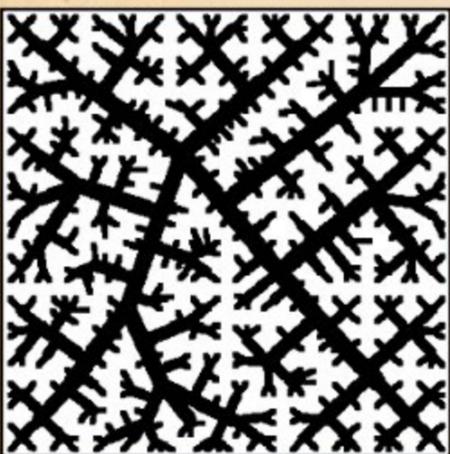
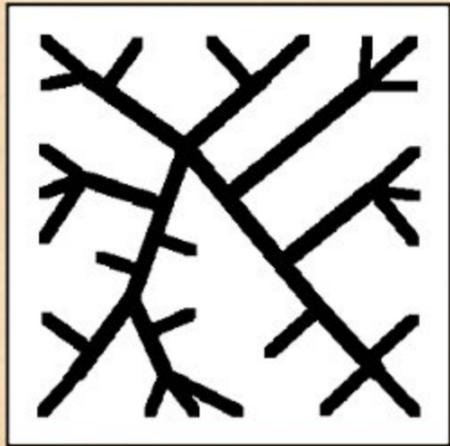
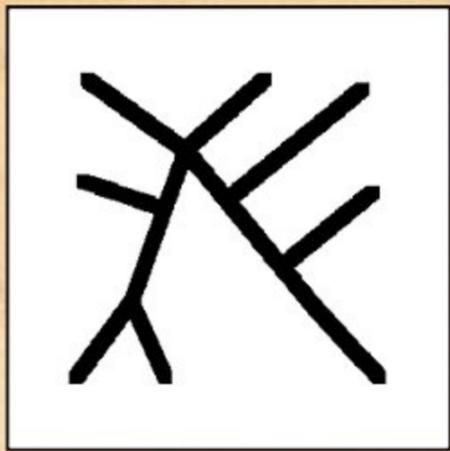
**VT = "Vascular neT" model**



How little information is needed to engineer vascular networks, and how efficient is the process?

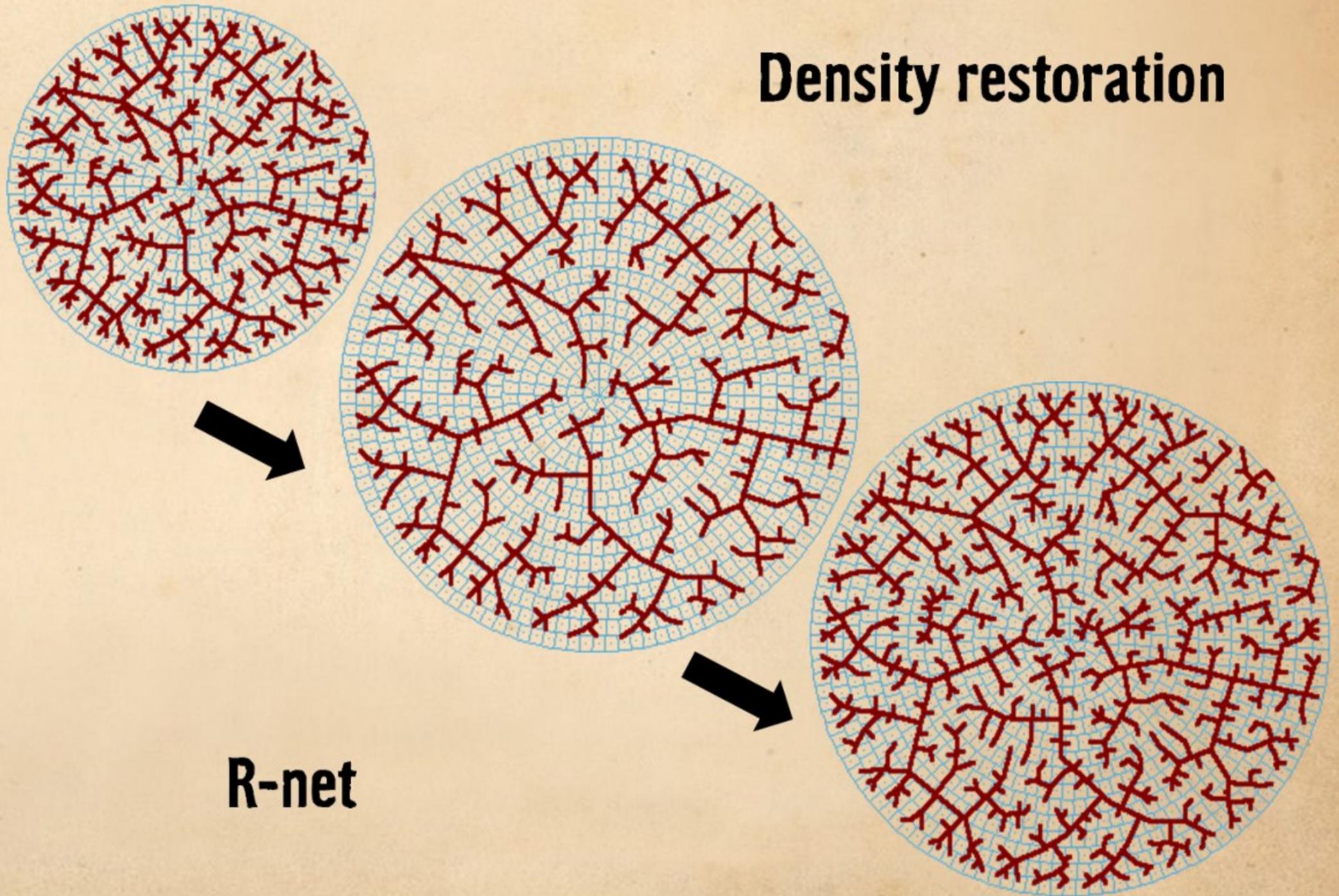


Length ratios  $\approx 1$



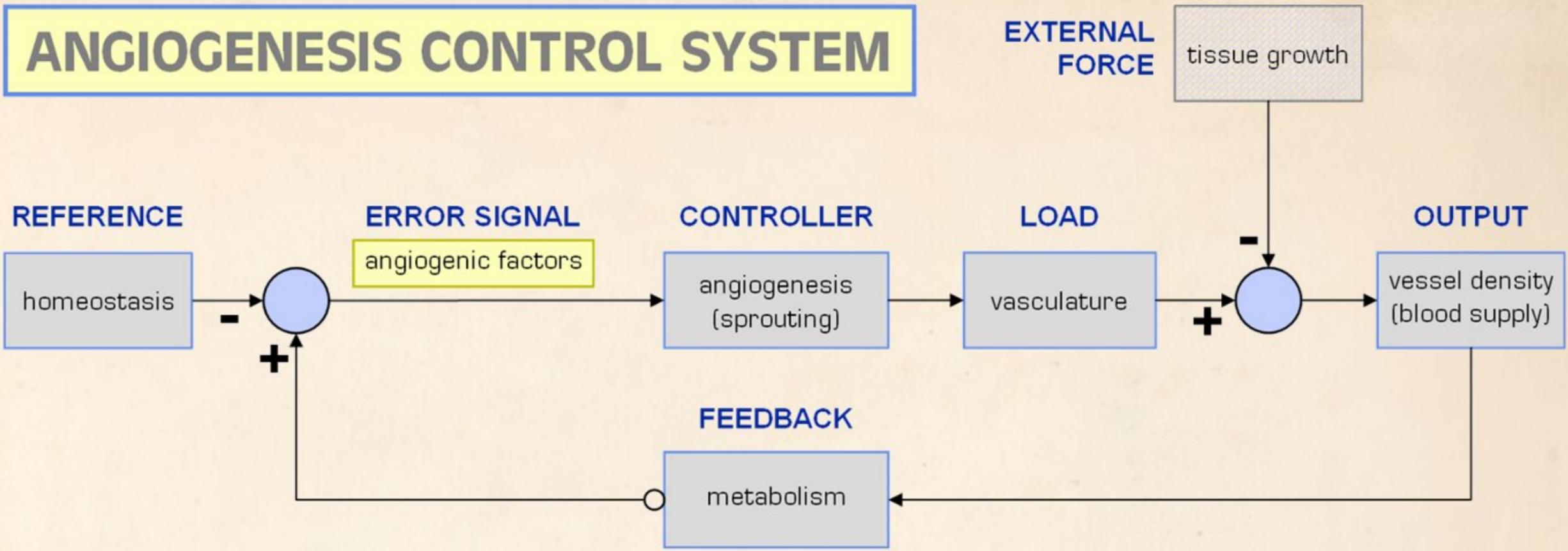
How does the system ensure that the life-and-death accuracy of the process is conserved?

**Density restoration**

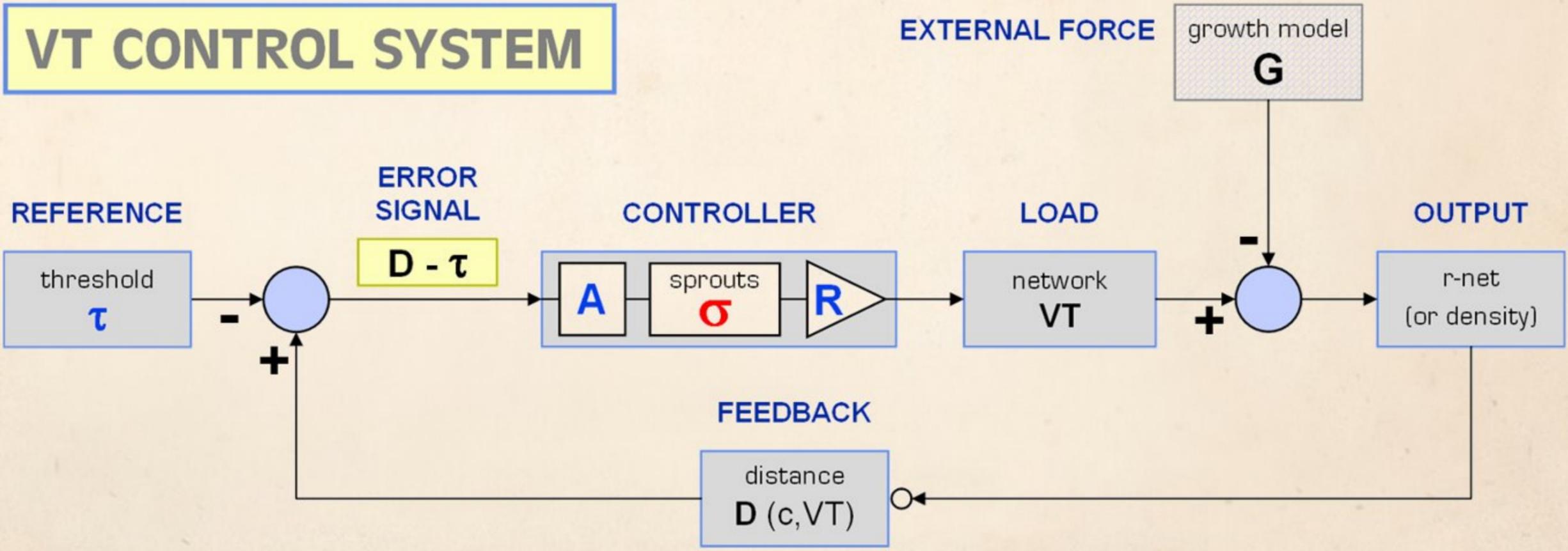


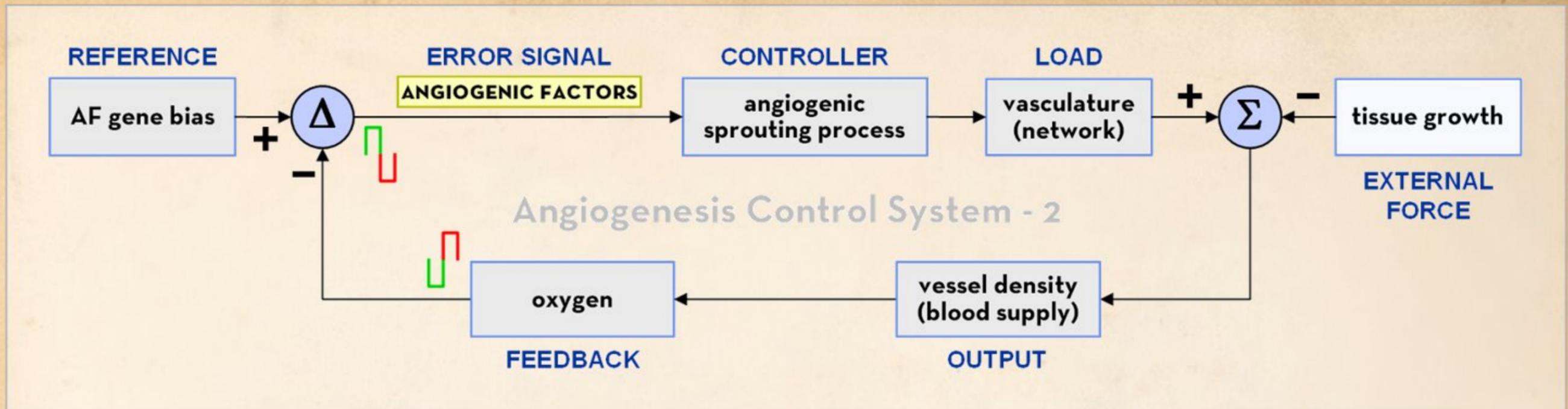
**R-net**

# ANGIOGENESIS CONTROL SYSTEM



# VT CONTROL SYSTEM



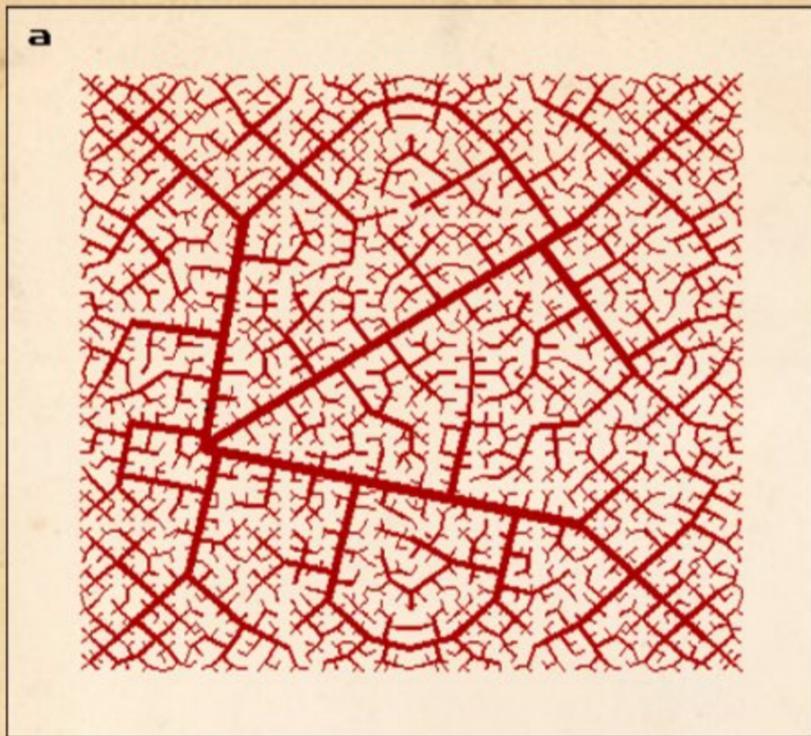


## Elements of the Control Systems

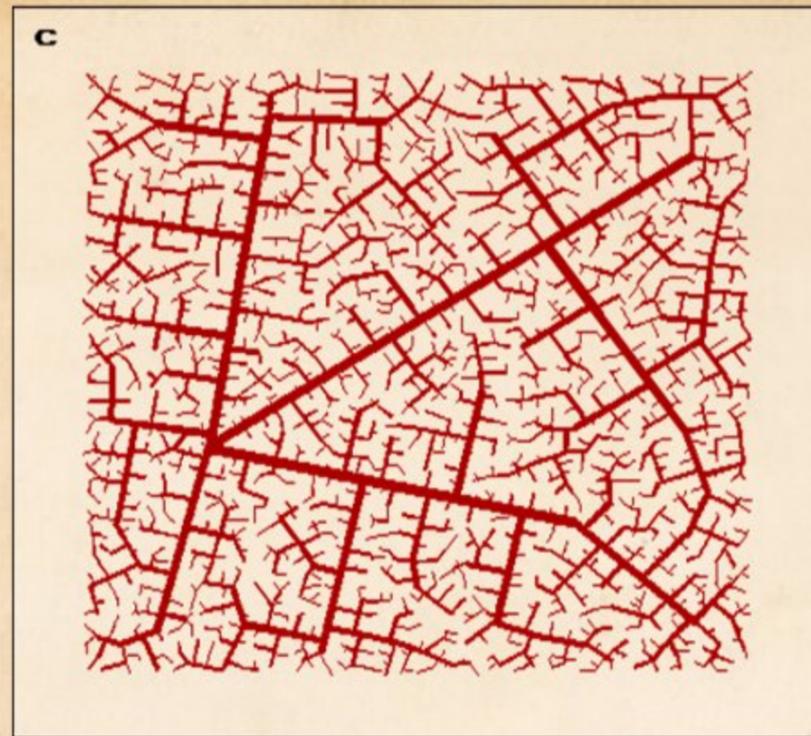
**promoter**  
=  
**vegf**

**inhibitor**  
=  
**oxygen**

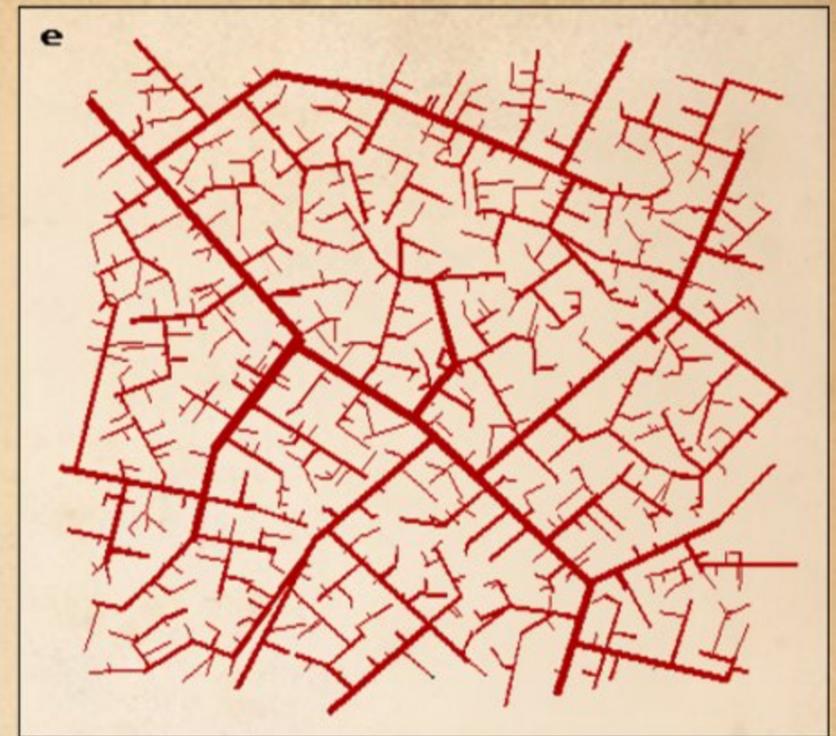
	ANGIOGENESIS	GENERAL	VT
	oxygen	feedback	distance $D(c, VT)$
	correct oxygen (vegf gene bias)	system reference	threshold $\tau$
	angiogenic factors	error signal	$D - \tau$
	-----	-----	-----
	sprouting process	controller	sprouting, A, R
	vascular network	load	VT network
	r-net, blood supply	output	r-net, vessel density
	-----	-----	-----
	tissue growth	external perturbation	growth model



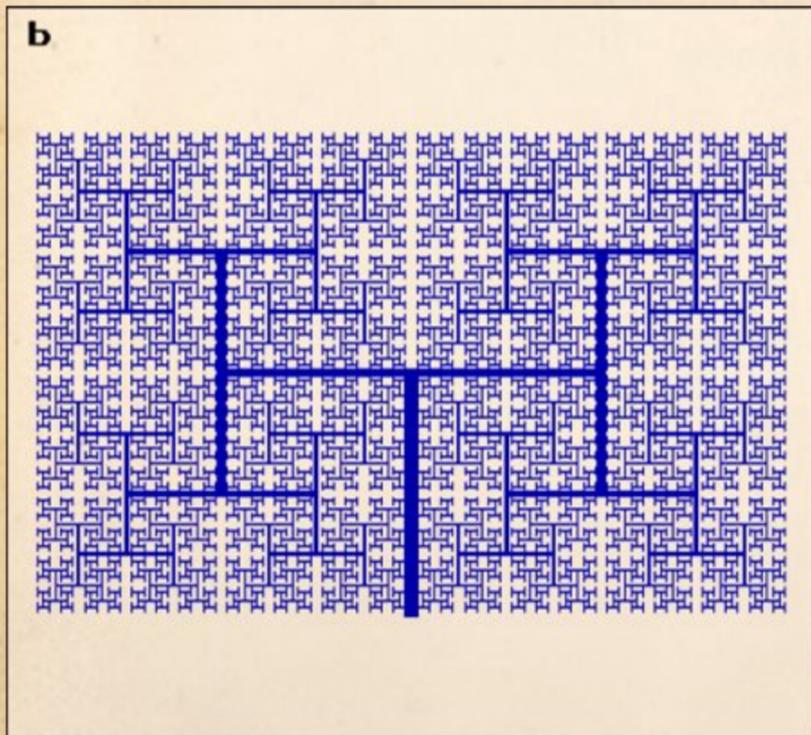
threshold  $\tau = 0.7$   
 reach  $R = 1.0$   
 sprout  $P = 1.0$



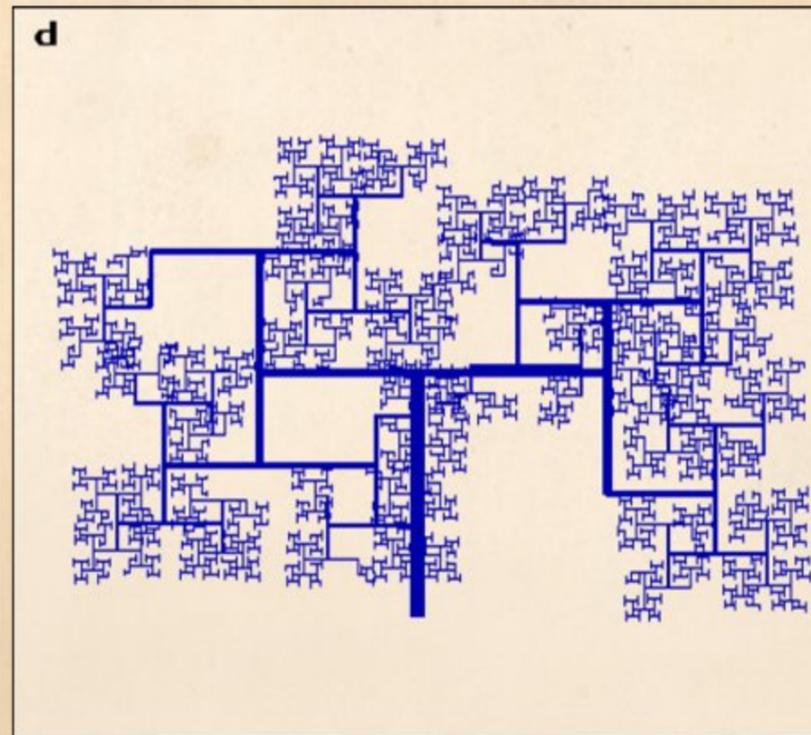
reach  $R = 1 \pm 0.5$  (efd)  
 sprout  $P = 0.5$



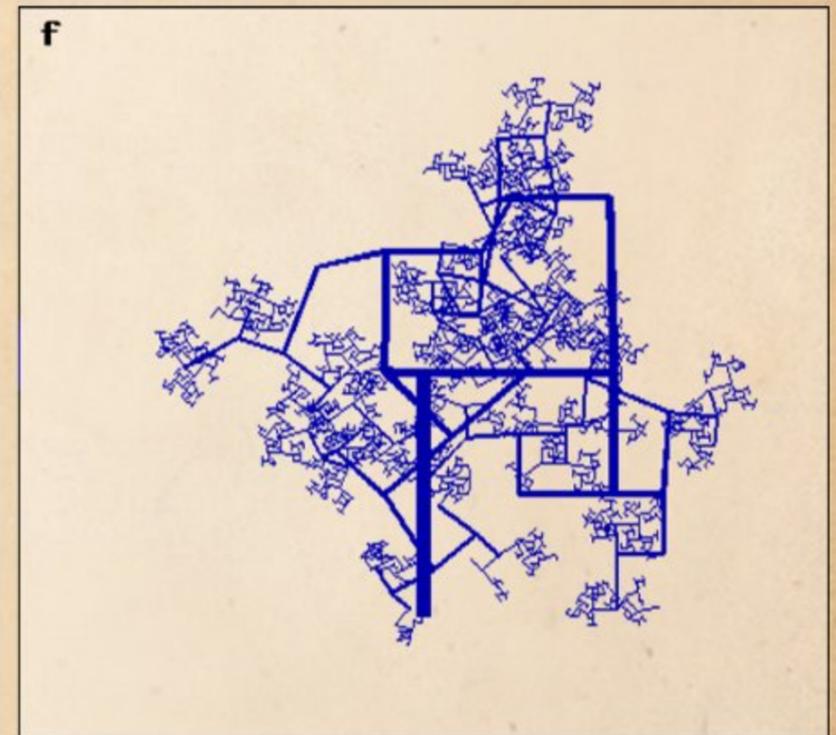
threshold  $\tau = 0.14$  to  $2.10$  (efd)  
 reach  $R = 1 \pm 1.0$  (efd)  
 sprout  $P = 0.25$



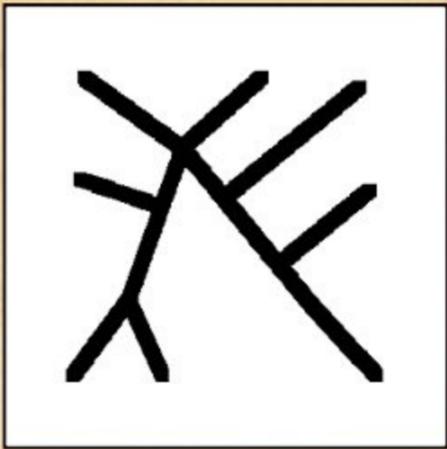
angles: left = right =  $\pi/2$   
 scaling: left = right =  $1/\sqrt{2}$   
 sprout  $P = 1.0$



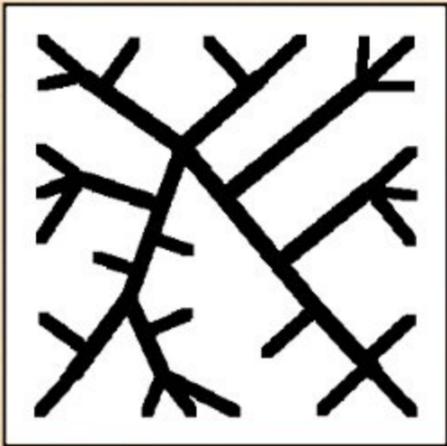
scaling: left =  $(1 \pm 0.5) \times 1/\sqrt{2}$  (ngd)  
 sprout  $P = 0.95$



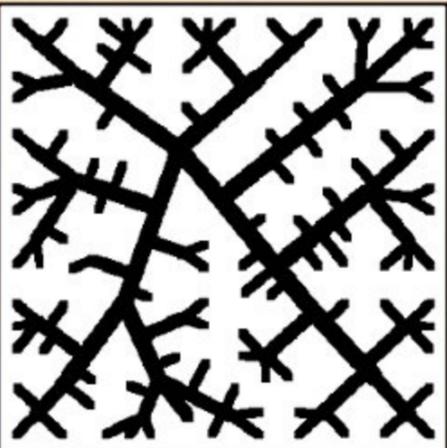
angles: left =  $\pi/2 \pm \arctan(\sqrt{2})$  (ngd)  
 scaling: left =  $1/\sqrt{2} \pm 1/\sqrt{2}$  (ngd)  
 sprout  $P = 0.90$

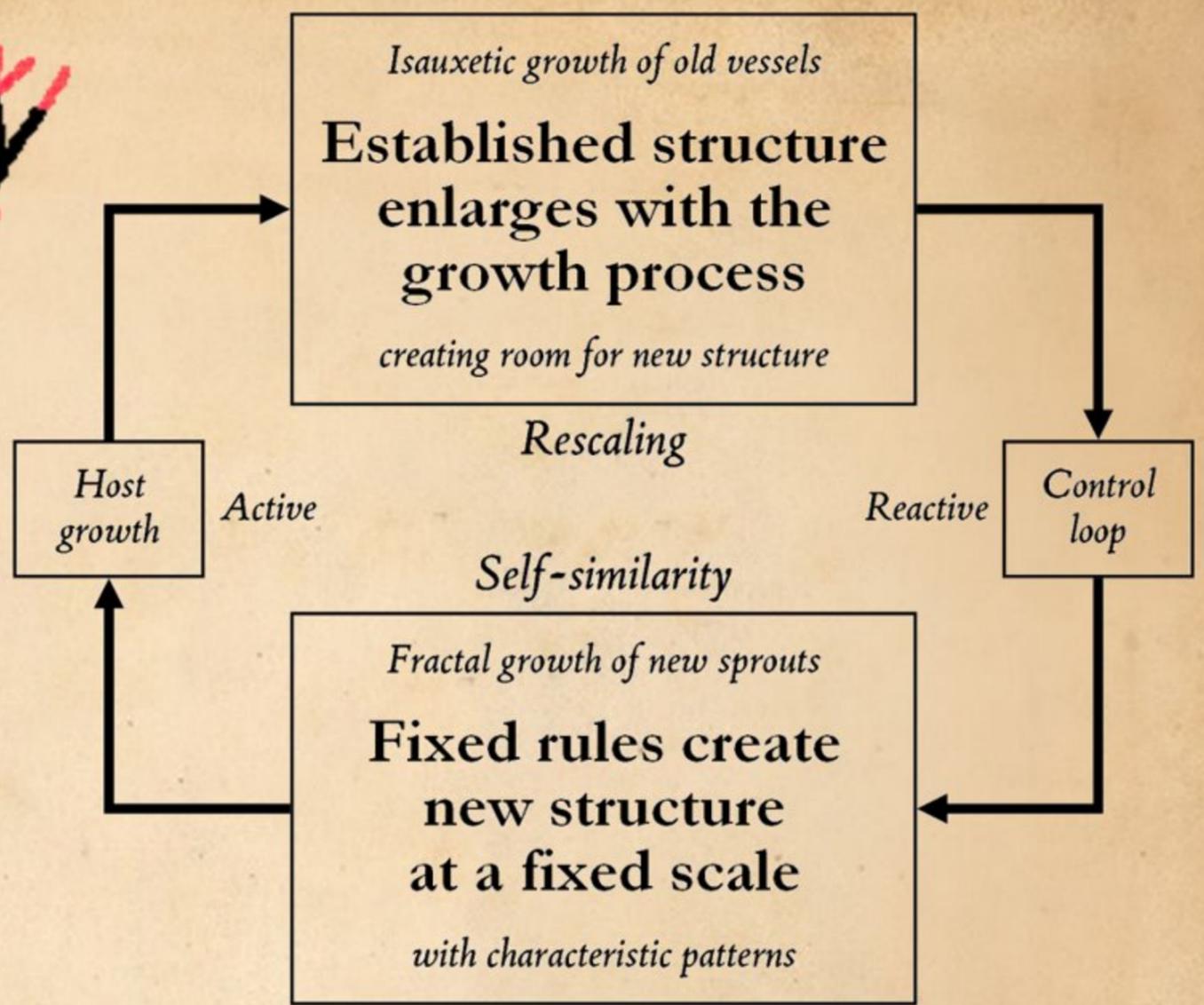


What are the geometries and topologies of vascular networks, and why do other structures share them?



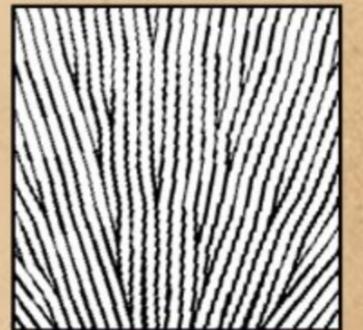
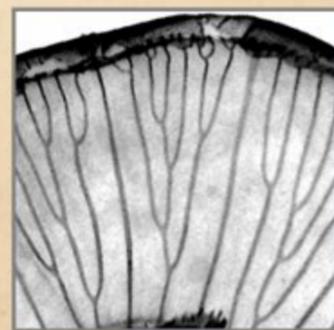
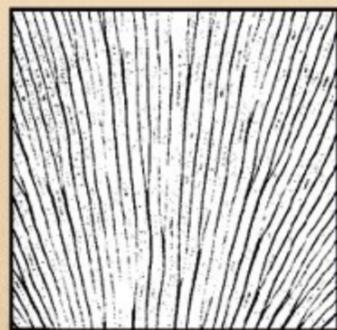
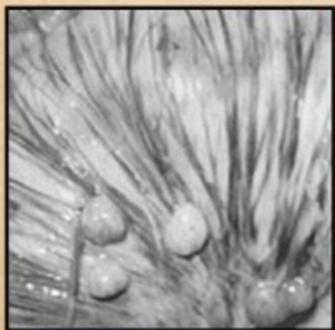
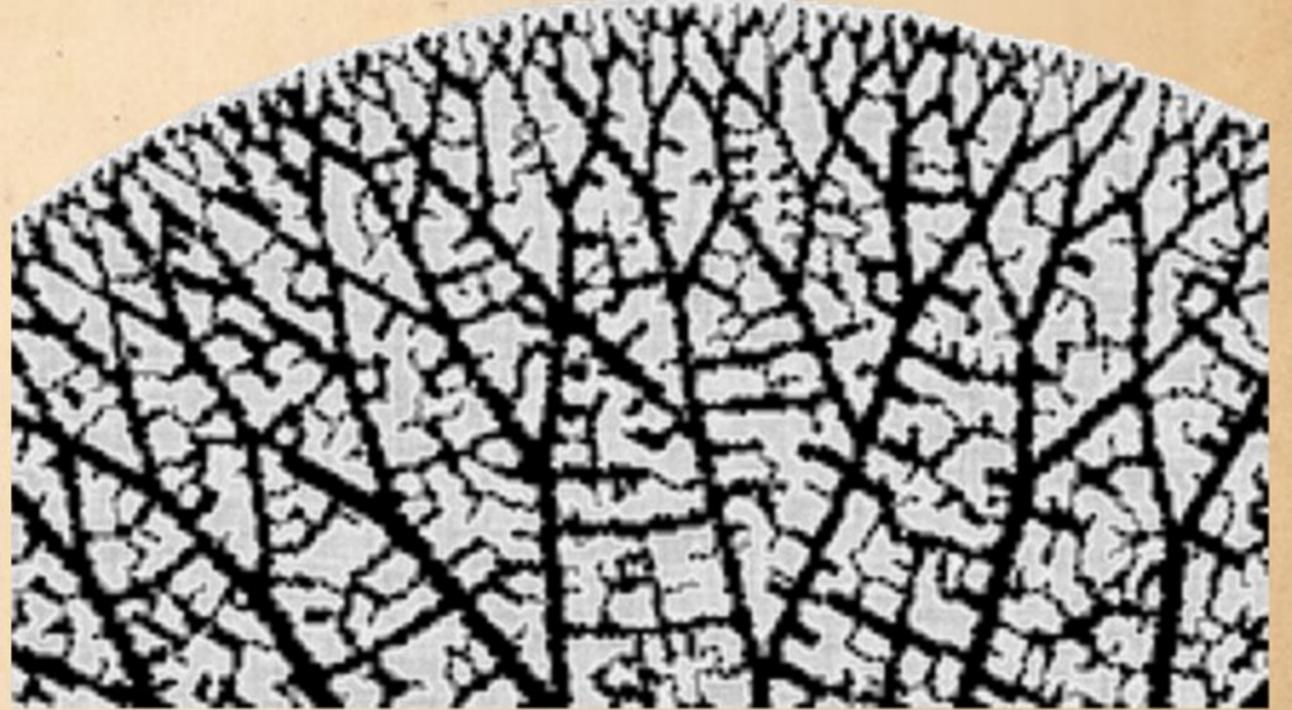
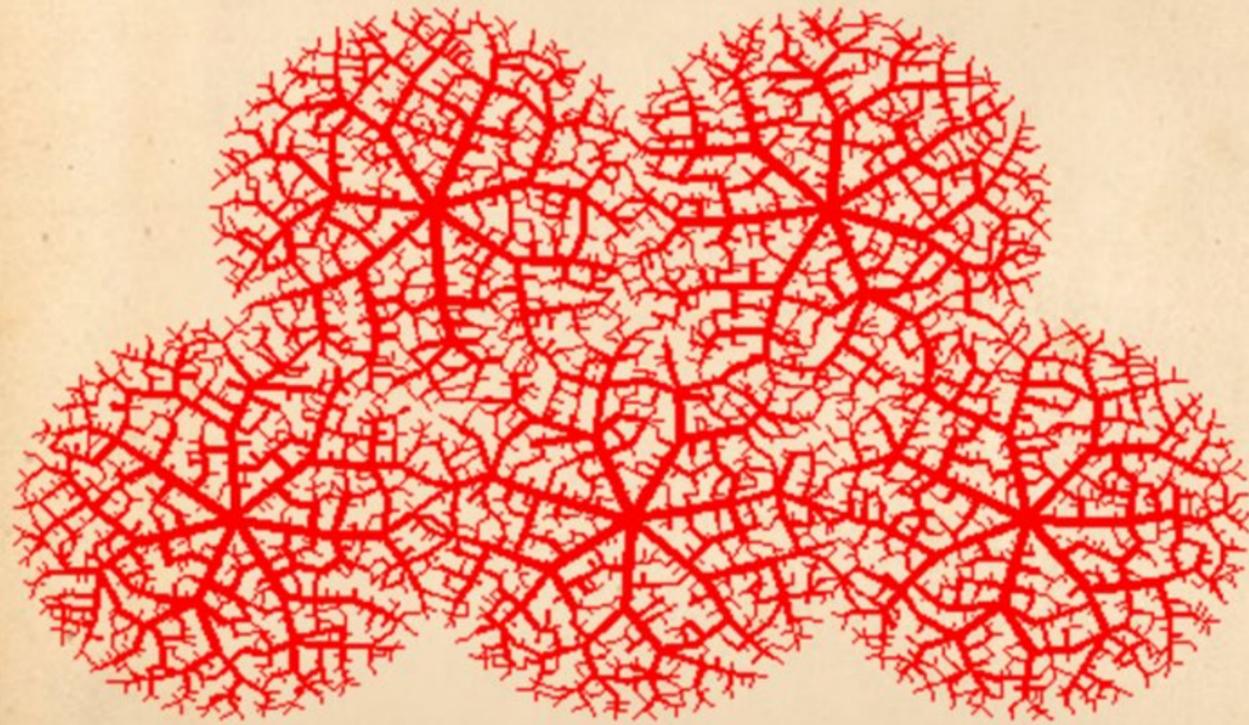
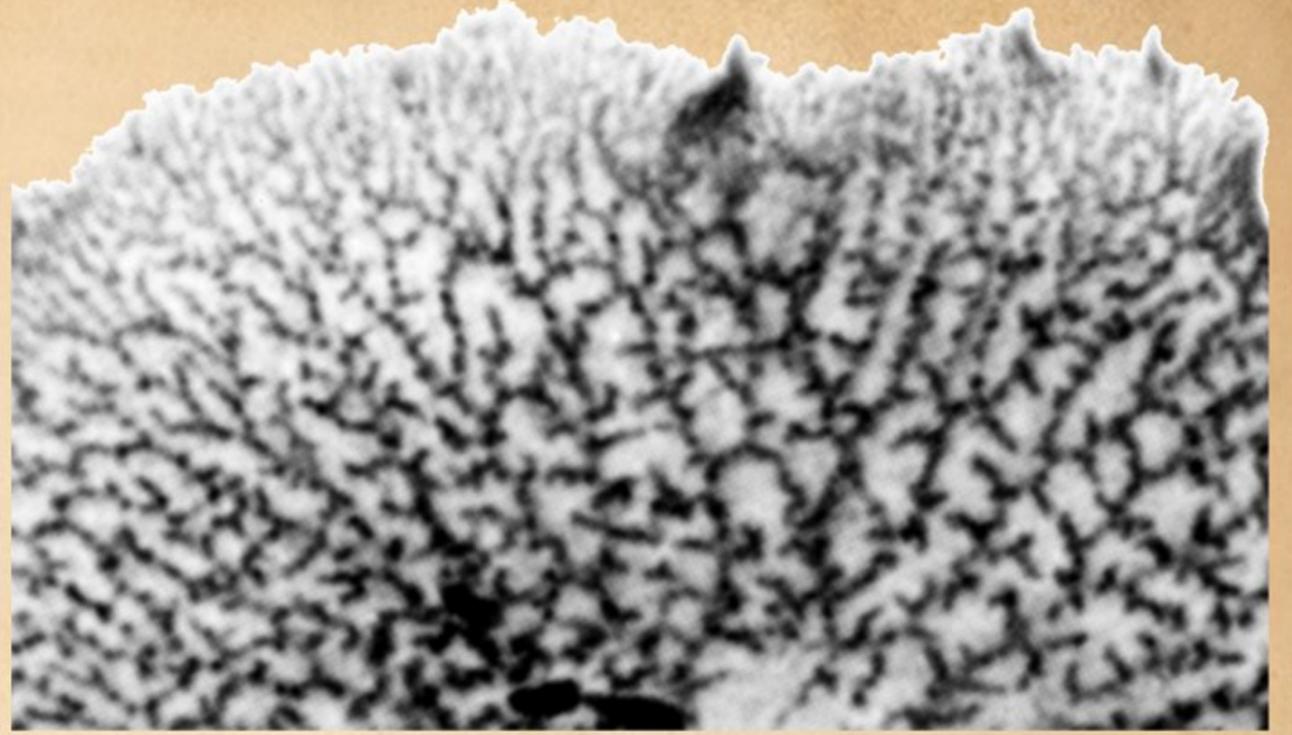
**Vascular networks are fractal r-nets**

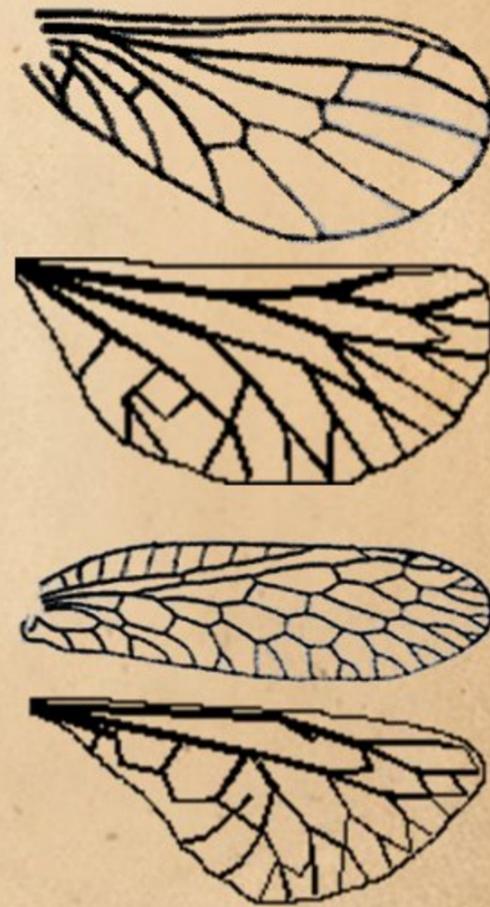
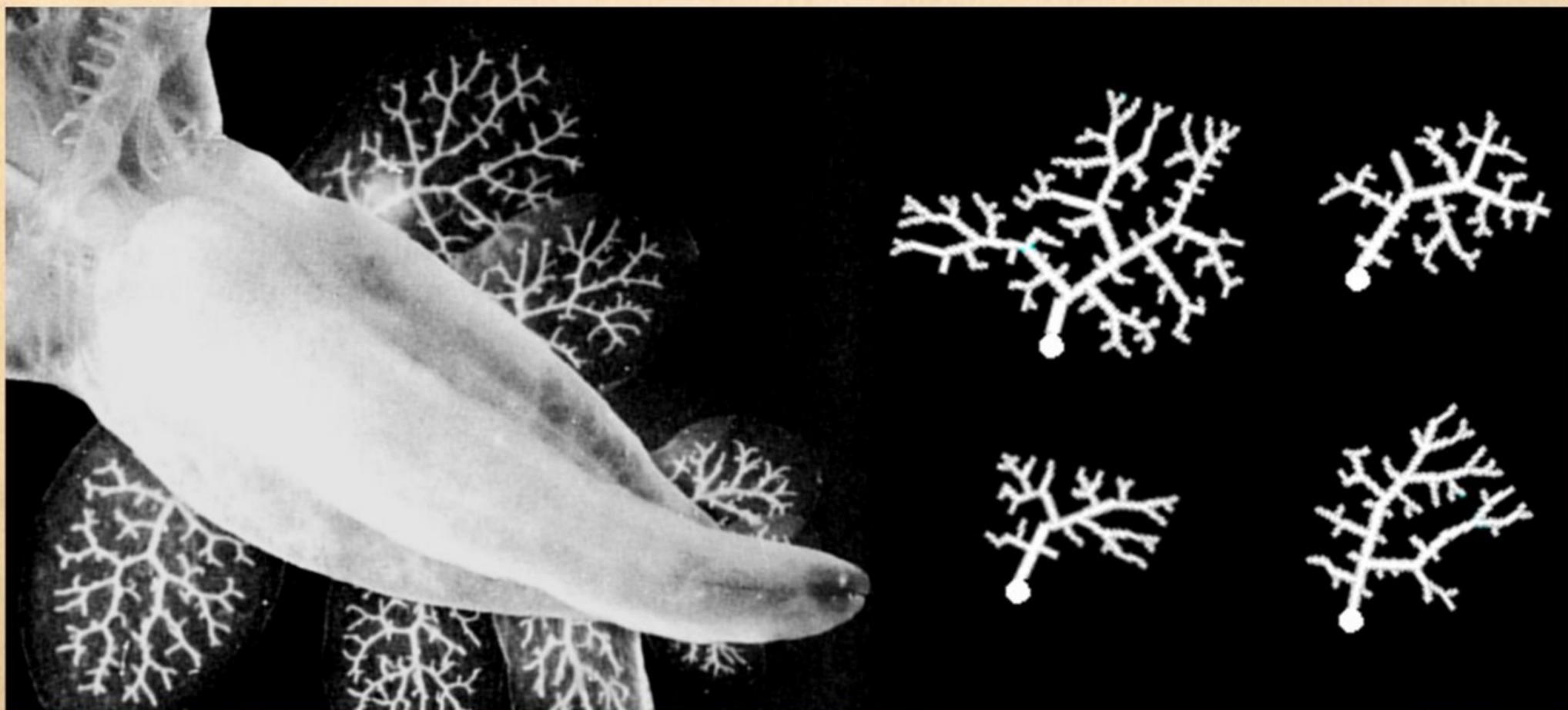
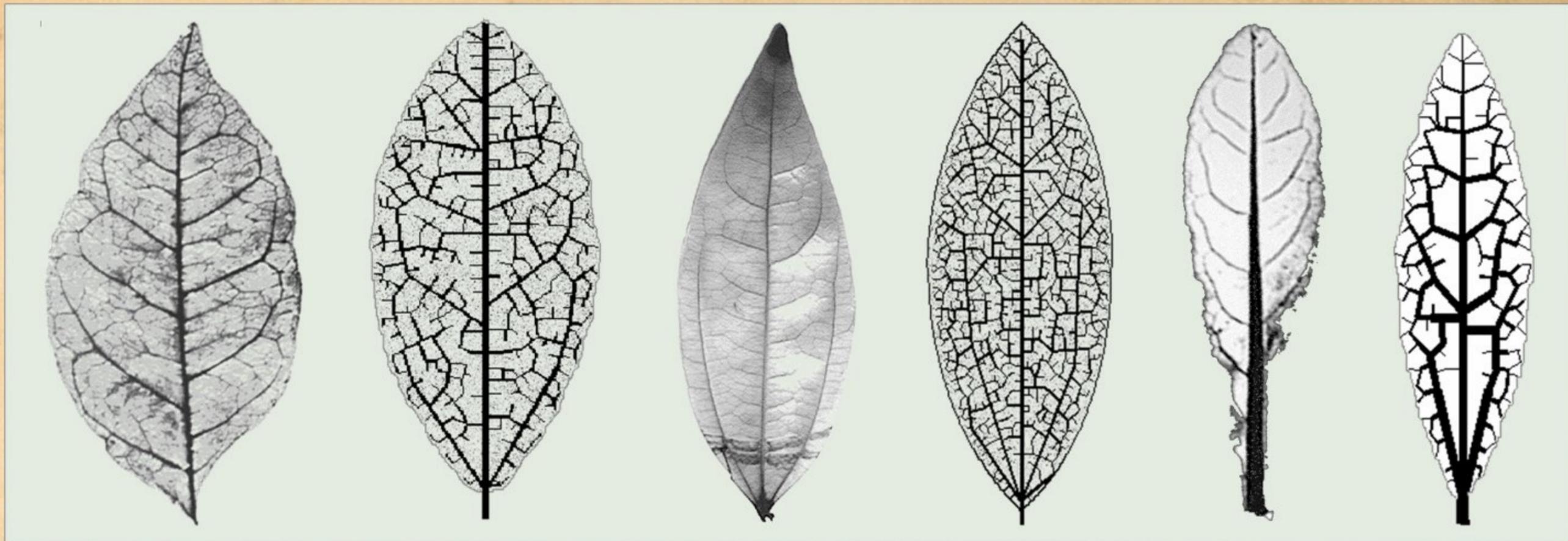


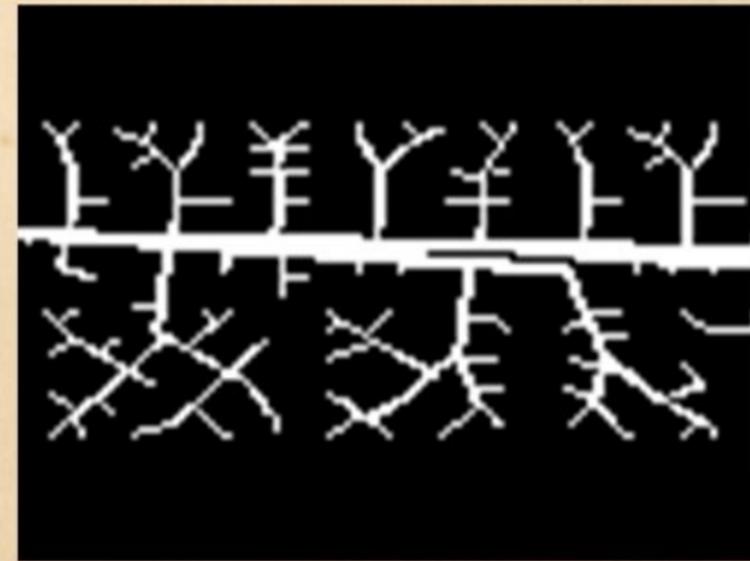
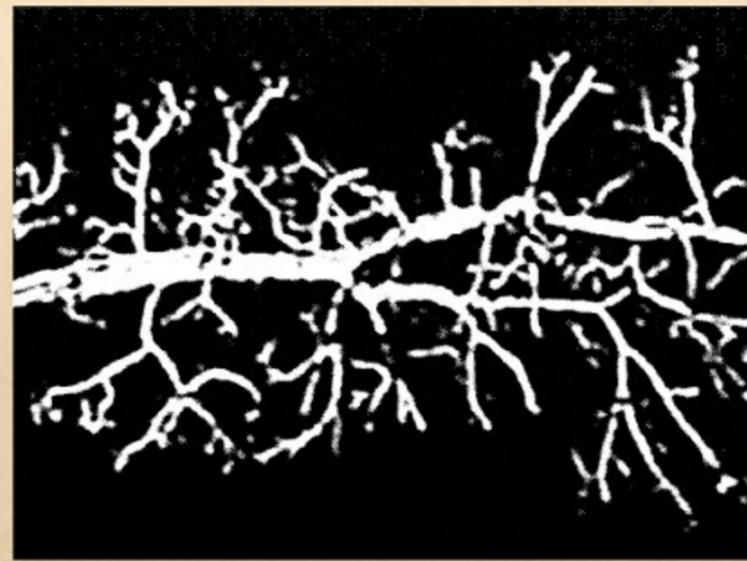
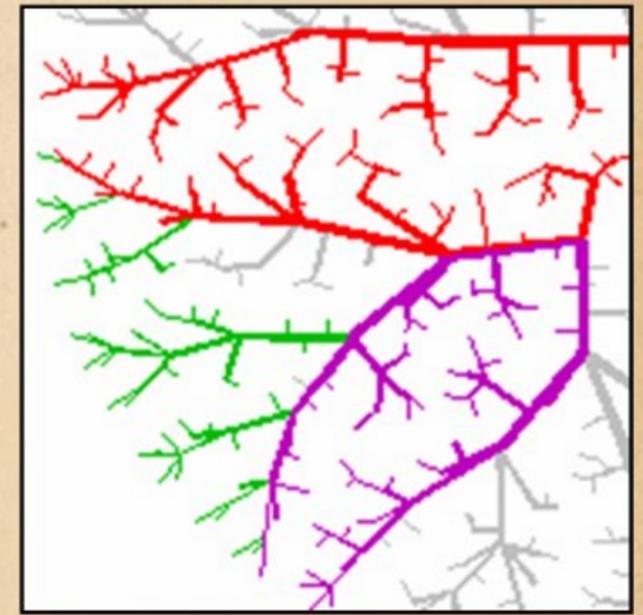
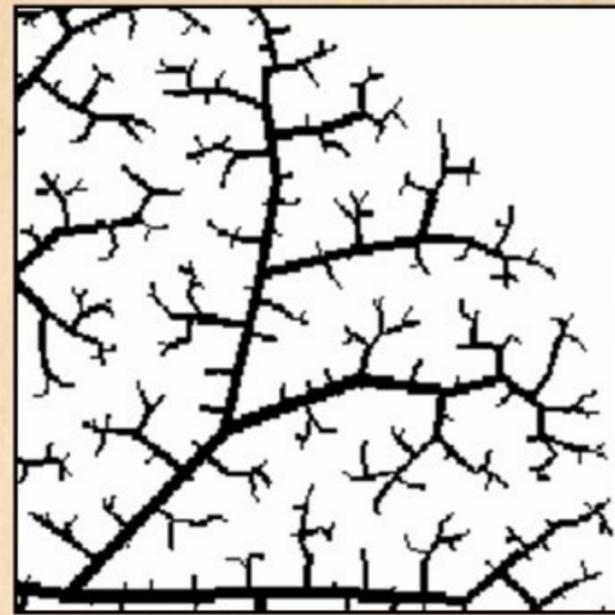
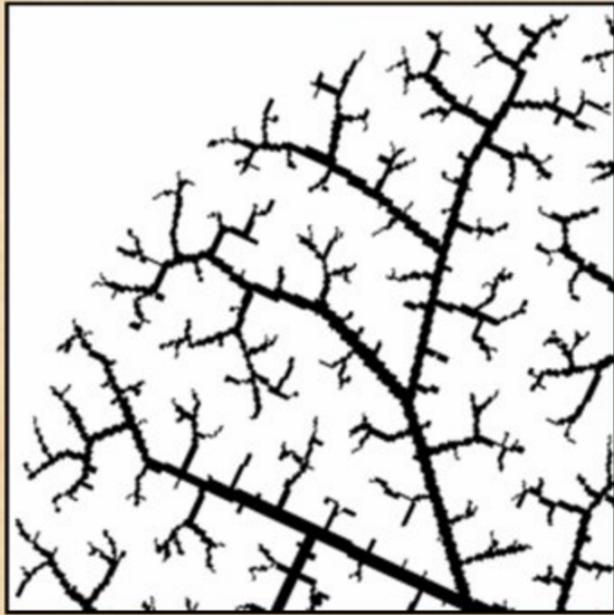
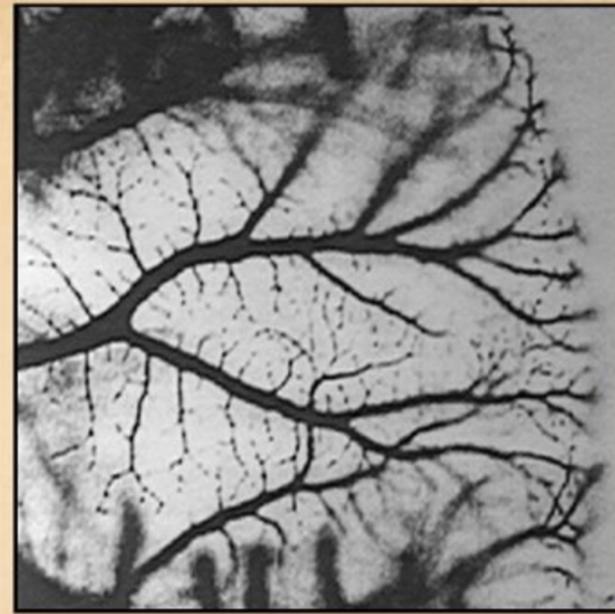


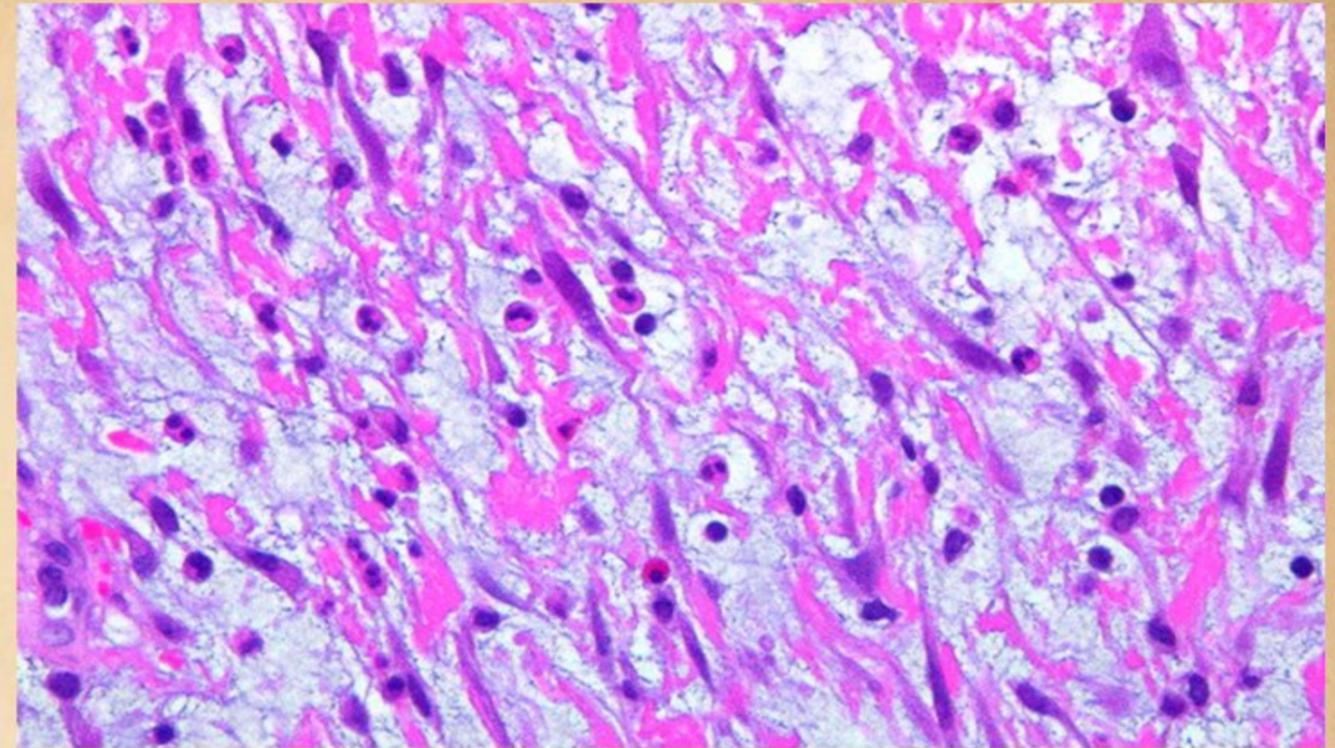
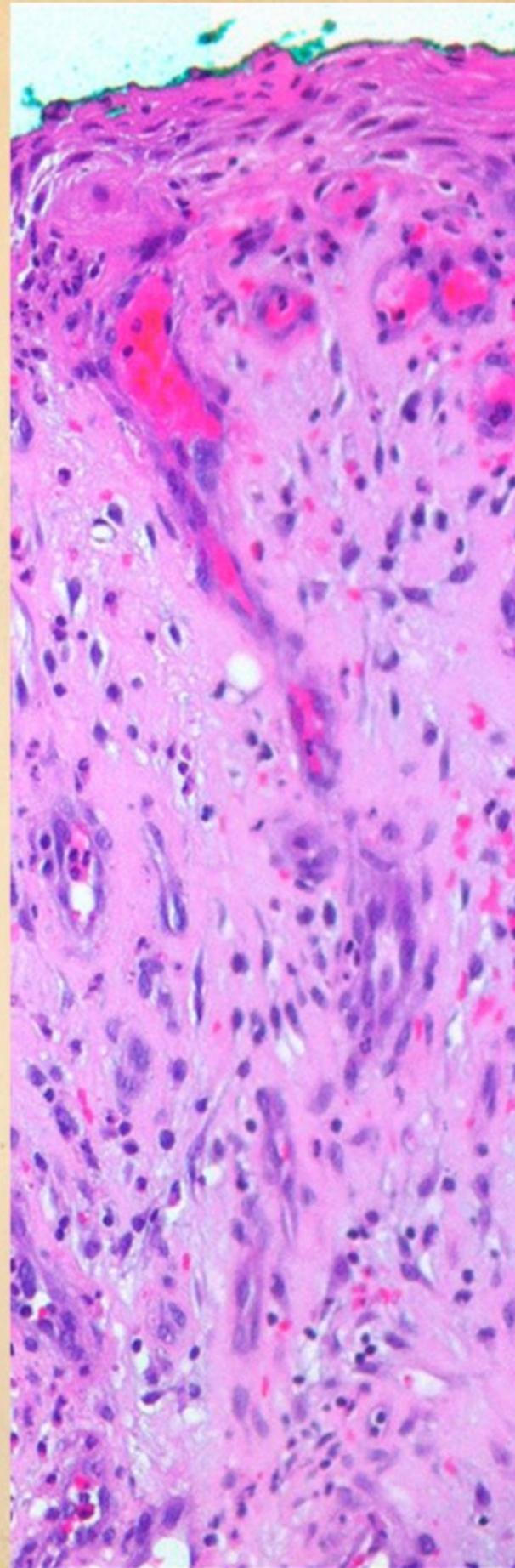
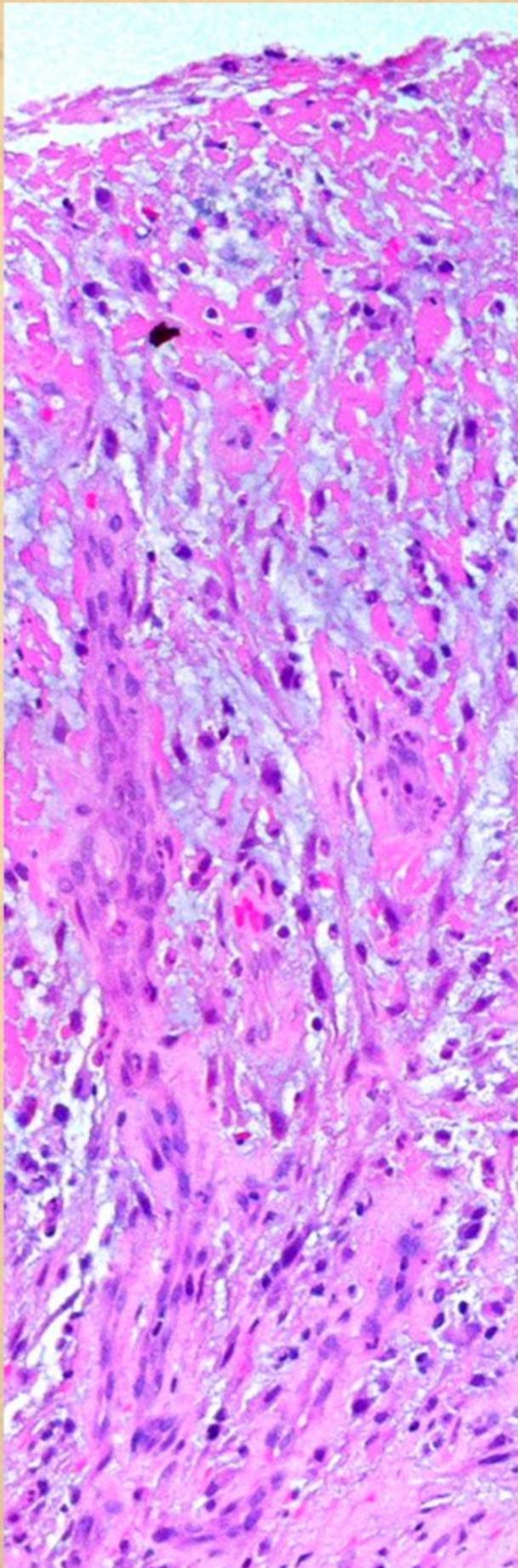
$$V_i \leftarrow g_i(V_{i-1}) \cup \{\sigma\}_i$$

$$V_i = \{ \Psi_{1, \dots, N(i)} \} = \bigcup_{k=0}^i g^{(i-k)}(\{\sigma\}_k)$$









## **Field angiogenesis**

### **developmental**

*embryonic,  
growth & maturation*

### **closed loop**

### **controlled**

*vessel restoration*

*inhibits*

*the controller*

### **dispersed**

## **Target angiogenesis**

### **incidental**

*wound, tumor,  
follicles, implants*

### **open loop**

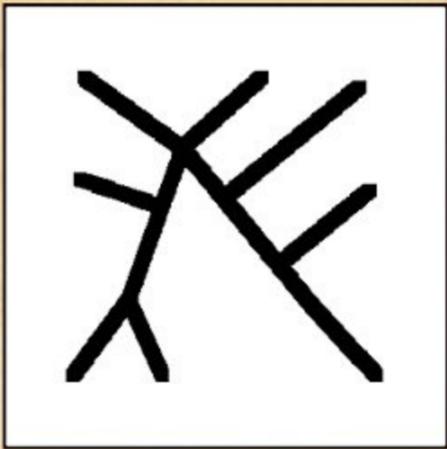
### **unregulated**

*vessel restoration*

*does NOT inhibit*

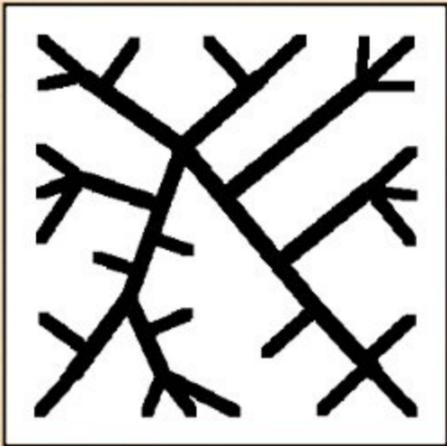
*the controller*

### **vector**



How do VEGF and angiogenesis operate to create a vascular network?

**Simple physical system contingent on promoter-inhibitor diffusion.**



How little information is needed; how efficient is the process?

**Very little. Very efficient.  
Parsimonious self-organization.**



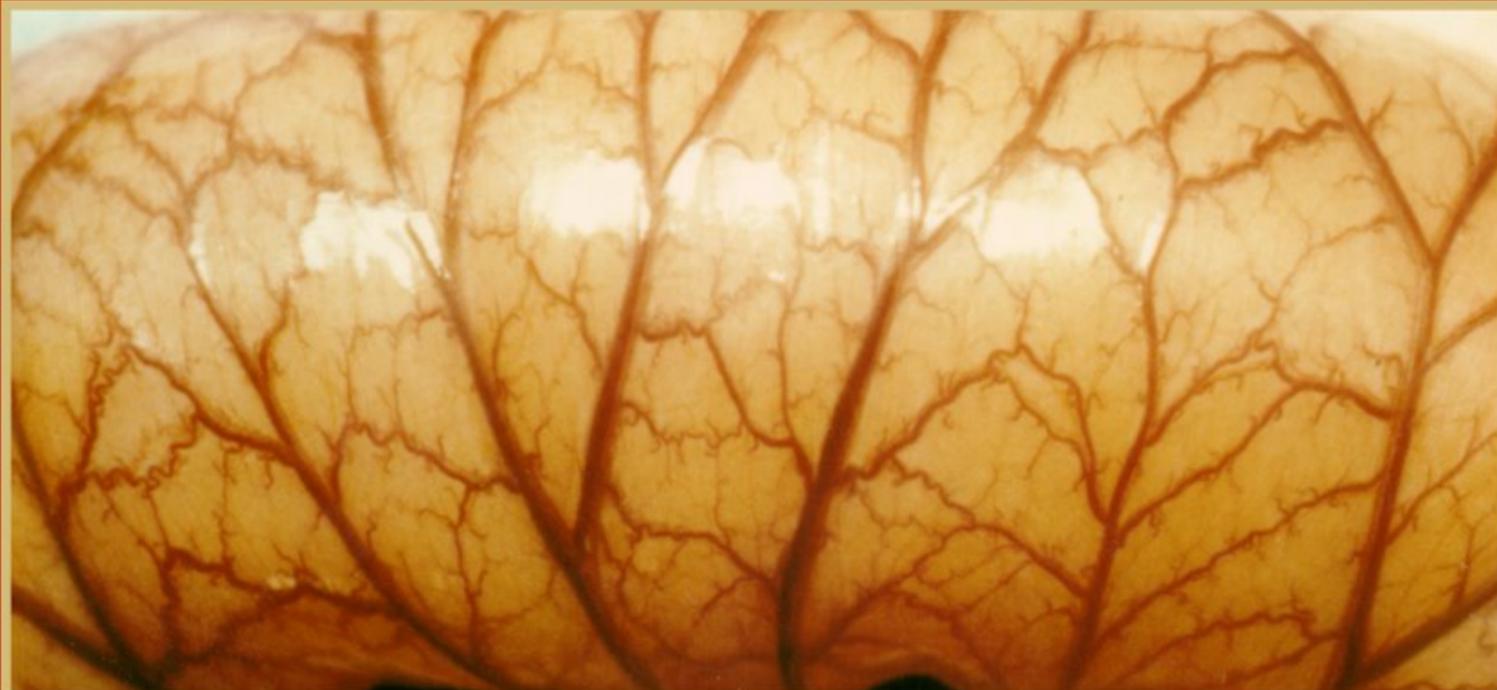
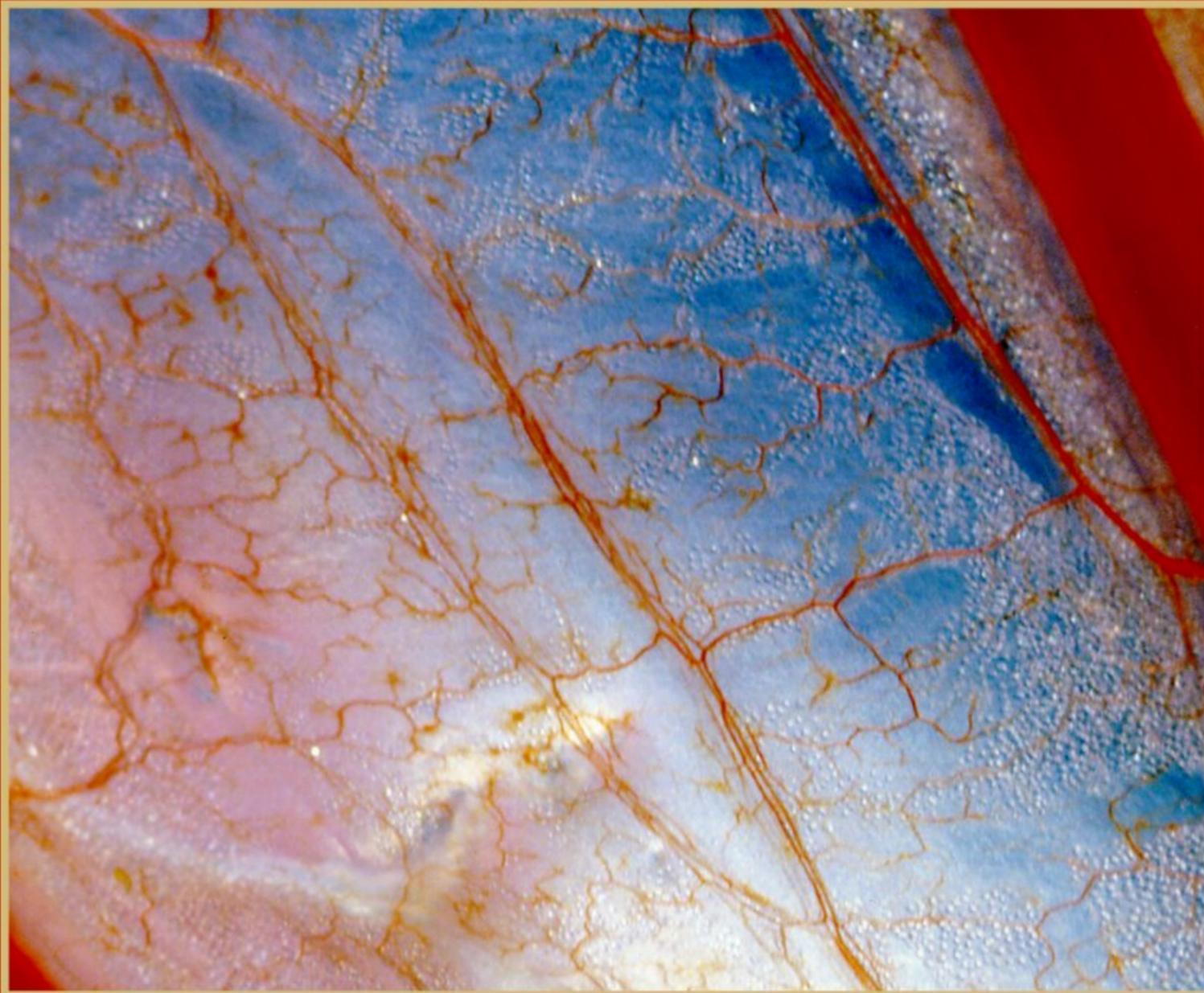
How is the life-and-death accuracy of the process conserved?

**Process is a reactive, space-driven, density-restoring error-correcting closed-loop feedback control system.**



What are the geometries and topologies; why in other structures?

**Vascular networks are fractal r-nets, life-and-death crucial, highly conserved through evolution.**



# THE CENTURY OF THE SYSTEM

---

DEVELOPMENTAL  
ANGIOGENESIS

=

CLOSED LOOP  
CONTROL SYSTEM

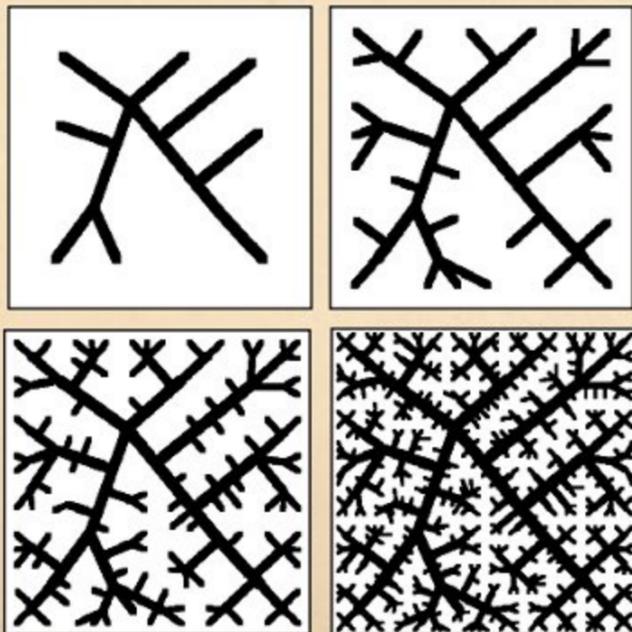
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**The control loop ensures the correct development of the life-and-death critical vascular network. Multicellular life cannot exist without it.**

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# THE VT MODEL OF ANGIOGENESIS

THE VASCULAR neT MODEL  
OF THE FORMATION OF  
BLOOD VESSELS AND  
VASCULAR NETWORKS



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