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Introduction

- Advanced application of commercial PBPK software can be restricted because users do not have access to the source code.
- Thus, the built-in models or individualised physiological parameters cannot be modified albeit that alternative models can be selected via screen options.
- For example, the gastric emptying function within absorption PBPK modelling framework is usually modelled as a first order process.
- However, gastric emptying of solids and liquids can have biphasic or more complex patterns; e.g., for solids there may be a lag phase during which little emptying occurs, followed by a linear (zero order) emptying phase, that is independent of gastric volume¹.
- Simcyp version 17.1 however now provides an interface facility for users to customise in-built ADAM models and parameters.

Customised ADAM Functions

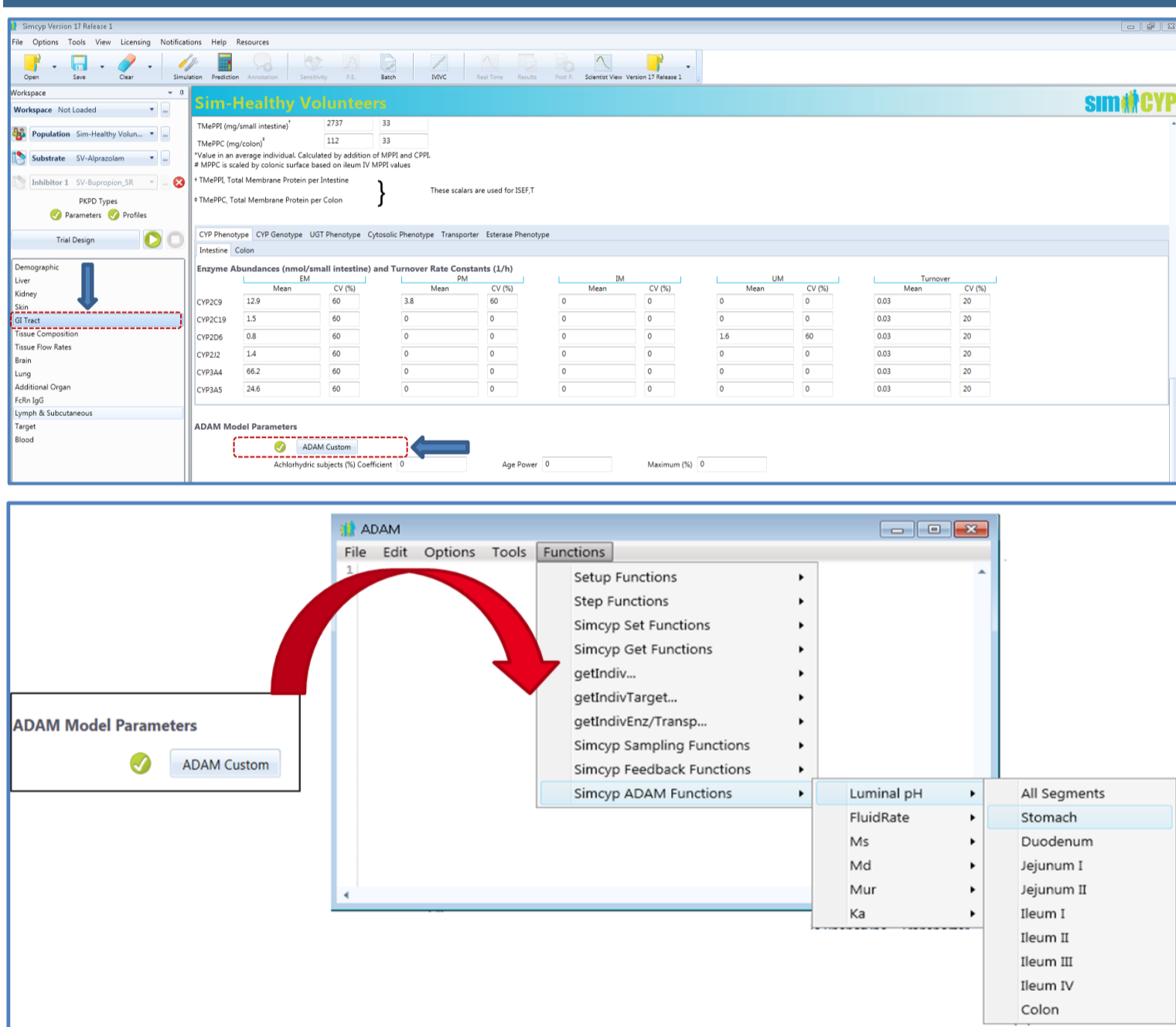


Fig. 1. Structure and location of custom ADAM Model functions in Simcyp® V17. Population>>GI Tract>>ADAM Custom>>Simcyp ADAM Functions.

- The interface language used for customising ADAM functions is Lua. Lua together with its interpreter/compiler is very lightweight and flexible, so can easily be embedded in other programs².

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ADAM
File Edit Options Tools Functions
1 -- Modify Gastric pH (fasted or fed) vs time
2 -- Single profile
3 -- pH-time profile is reported in the Excel "Stomach pH Profile" WS
4
5 -- LUA array indices start with 1 not 0 !!!
6 -- local variable definitions
7 local base_line_pH = 1.5
8
9 -- User Input data x is time in hours, y is pH in this case is pH
10 -- Gastric pH time profile is taken from Abeele et al 2015 JPS EV Aug 26
11 -- Subject V01 Figure 1: Diclofenac K+ 50 mg in 240 mL oral solution pH 7.25
12 local x = {0.0, 0.0422, 0.1125, 0.1969, 0.32349, 0.49227, 0.6610, 0.829817, 0.99859, 1.167, 1.335, 1.503, 1.671, 1.839, 2.007, 2.175, 2.343, 2.511, 2.679, 2.847, 3.015}
13 local y = {1.5, 2.119, 6.88742, 6.99338, 6.35762, 5.72185, 5.98675, 5.56291, 4.456, 3.8, 3.8, 3.8, 3.8, 3.8, 3.8, 3.8, 3.8, 3.8, 3.8, 3.8, 3.8}
14 -- no. of array points - required user input value
15 local npoints = 19
16
17 function GastricpHStomach(t, pH)
18 -- linear interpolation method
19 if method_flag == 1 then
20 for i=1, npoints do
21 if t == 0 then
22 lpH = base_line_pH
23 end
24 if t > 0 and t < x[i] then
25 lpH = y[i-1] + ((y[i]-y[i-1])/(x[i]-x[i-1])) * (t-x[i-1]))
26 break
27 end
28 if t > x[npoints] then
29 lpH = base_line_pH
30 end
31 end
32 return lpH
33 end
34 end
35 end
36 end
    
```

Fig. 2. Sample Lua interface script for assigning time-dependent gastric pH via interpolation of measured values.

Applications

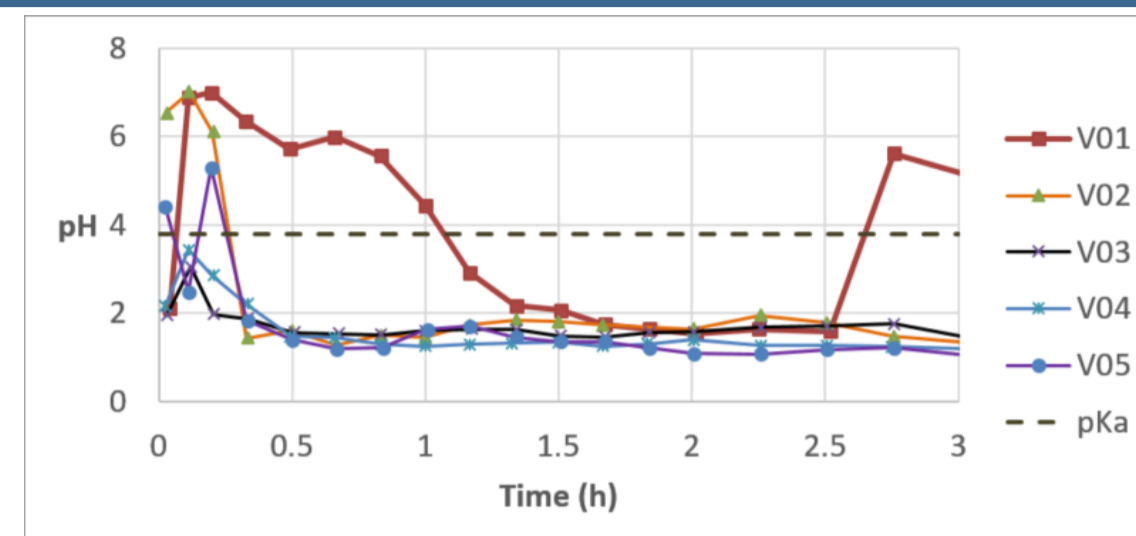


Fig. 3. Individual fasted pH in gastric aspirates vs. time in the presence of dissolved diclofenac sodium (van den Abeele et al. 2015).

- Recently, van den Abeele et al. explored gastrointestinal dissolution, supersaturation and precipitation of the acidic drug diclofenac in humans³.
- A 50 mg potassium diclofenac tablet was administered and gastric fluids were aspirated at intervals & dissolved and total diclofenac and pH (Fig. 3) measured.
- The current default luminal fasted pH function within the simulator is static - pH cannot change as a function of time (Fig. 4).

	Stomach	Duodenum	Jejunum I	Jejunum II	Ileum I	Ileum II	Ileum III	Ileum IV	Colon
pH Fasted	1.5	6.4	6.5	6.6	6.8	7	7.1	7.3	6.5
CV pH Fasted (%)	38	16	13	11	10	10	7	6	15

Fig. 4. Default Static pH model within Simcyp.

- Diclofenac is a low pKa (3.8) acid and its solubility is sensitive to the range of pH indicated in Fig. 3 which ranges from 2 units above and below the pKa. Thus, it is useful to be able to assess the likely impact on simulation outcomes of dynamic rather than static pH.
- ADAM Lua interface can be used to intervene in the current static pH model and dynamic time-dependent pH profiles can be simulated in V17.1 (Fig. 2).
- Although the availability of luminal pH data is rare, the Lua interface can be used to study the impact of acid regulating agents (ARAs) on co-administered drugs; gastric pH profiles of commonly used ARAs at therapeutic doses have been reported^{4,5,6}.
- Lua interface together with the PD module has been used to model pH-feedback with a PPI (see Poster Rose *et al.*).
- Currently Lua interface can be used to access or intervene in a number of ADAM model functions across all GI-compartments including: **a)** GI-Luminal pH; **b)** Fluid rate (volume) (i.e., gastric emptying); **c)** Drug mass dissolved; **d)** Drug mass undissolved; and **e)** Absorption rate constant.
- Additional simulator state variables can be accessed using codes indicated on the Excel Output WS "Ode State Info".
- The long term plan is to provide libraries of example scripts.

References

- Siegel et al. Gut. 1988; 29(1): 85–89.
- www.lua.org
- Van den Abeele et al. J Pharm Sci. 2016;105(2):687-96.
- Goh et al. Neurogastroenterol Motil. 2016; 22(3): 355-366.
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