Reviewer's report

Title: On integrative cancer biology approaches to therapeutic gain

Version: 1 Date: 2 November 2005

Reviewer: Herbert Sauro

Reviewer's report:

General

The author describes two approaches to cancer treatment based to some extent on a control theory approach. The paper is written in a way that makes it of interest to a highly specialized group. Outside the cancer community it probably would not be understandable. It is also a difficult paper to read given the large number of abbreviations which are used but perhaps this is the nature of the topic. As a result of these observations it is difficult for me to judge the scientific merit of the paper. The numerical methods that are employed appear to be sound although determining the steady state by a manual inspection of the graphs could be greatly improved simply by examining the sum of squares of the rates of change. The author uses SBML to represent an older model from 1989. It would advantageous to make the model accessible to third-parties as supplementary information.

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Major Compulsory Revisions (that the author must respond to before a decision on publication can be reached)

If there is anyway to make the text more readable to a wider audience then I would highly recommend this.

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Minor Essential Revisions (such as missing labels on figures, or the wrong use of a term, which the author can be trusted to correct)

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Discretionary Revisions (which the author can choose to ignore)

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What next?: Unable to decide on acceptance or rejection until the authors have responded to the major compulsory revisions

Level of interest: An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

Quality of written English: Needs some language corrections before being published

Statistical review: No