




Medical Imaging and Processing.

Quantitative Medical Imaging to Extract Clinical Knowledge



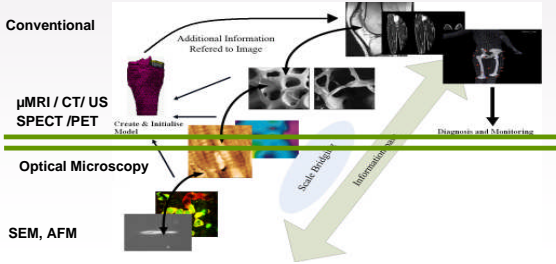
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 Medical Physics and Bioengineering
 [INSERM U678 UPMC]
 A.Todd@ucl.ac.uk

SSIP 2008

Sub-topic 

Multiscale Imaging

- Model relates underlying structure to clinical image



Conventional

μMRI / CT / US
 SPECT / PET

Optical Microscopy

SEM, AFM

Scale Bridging

Information Transfer

Diagnosis and Monitoring

2




Multiple Spatial and Temporal Scales

The Challenge



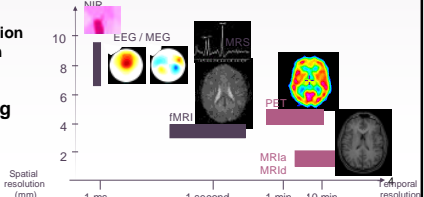
For optimal product design which spatial and temporal scales should be resolved?

3




Overview (roadmap)

- Some tools
 - Detection
 - Segmentation and measurement
 - Registration and fusion
 - Quantification
 - Modelling,
- Some issues
 - Intelligent acquisition
 - Artefact correction
 - Partial Volume
 - Towards Therapy
- Multi-scale imaging
 - Bone
 - Cartilage
 - 3DAH




4



Acknowledgements

Colleagues and Collaborators:
 CMIC (in particular Derek Hill and Dave Hawkes), CS,
 Medical Physics and Bioengineering
 MIAS IRC (UCL, Oxford, Imperial, Manchester)
 INSERM U494 /U678
 Harvard, Georgetown, Leuven, INRIA,
 EPSRC, MRC, Wellcome, Siemens, Philips, GSK,
 and many others.



Why do we want Quantify?

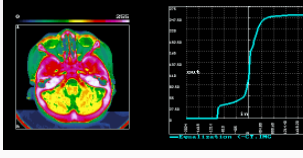
- A description without numbers is a very poor things [Lord Kelvin]
- To determine limits e.g. normal/ abnormal
- To determine progress e.g. increasing/decreasing
- For research e.g. new classes/ phenomena
- Note difference between absolute and relative quantitation
 - Different regions/ times
 - MBq /ml

But we have been waiting for a long time

6

Image Processing in General

- Aims of image processing
 - Detection
 - Measurement
 - Description
- What is special about medical images
- Many different types of data
 - MR, CT, NM, US
- Pre-Processing Manipulation Assessment

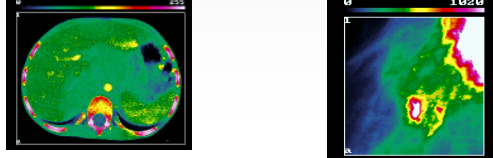


Histogram Equalization

7

Some Examples

- Tumour staging
 - Detection
 - segmentation
 - Measurement
 - volume
 - Description
 - staging
 - diagnostic strategy
- Microcalcifications
 - Detection
 - matched filter
 - Measurement
 - how many
 - shape
 - Description
 - benign/ malignant

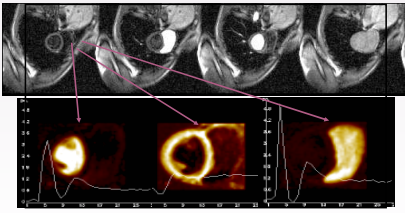


8

Models
Physical, Mathematical
Physiological

Processing (Quantification)

Management



Manipulation of Associated Data

Evaluation

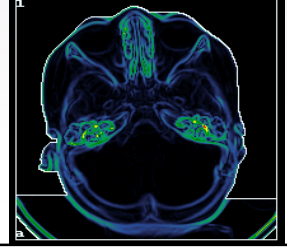
Interpretation

Ack U494/U678

9

Segmentation

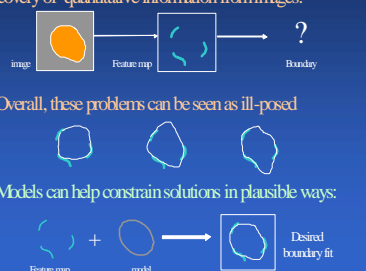
- Classic 'edge detection' methods
 - Gradient (Sobel etc), zero crossings of Laplacian
 - Canny
 - Marr Hildreth
- Phase congruency
- Model based
 - Medial axis MREP
 - Active shape
- Clustering
 - Split merge
 - K-Means
 - Affinity
- etc



10

Models in Image Analysis

- Lack of image quality and/or features often limit the recovery of quantitative information from images.
- Overall, these problems can be seen as ill-posed
- Models can help constrain solutions in plausible ways:



Ack Taylor

11

Integrated Segmentation via Game Theory

(Chakraborty & Duncan)

Image

Region-Based segmentation

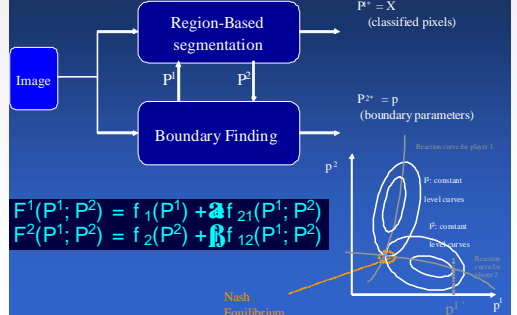
Boundary Finding

$P^* = X$ (classified pixels)

$P^{2*} = p$ (boundary parameters)

$F^1(P^1; P^2) = f_1(P^1) + \alpha f_{21}(P^1; P^2)$

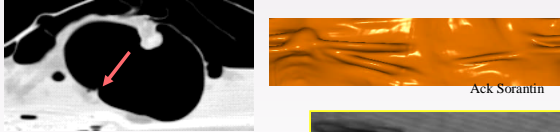
$F^2(P^1; P^2) = f_2(P^2) + \beta f_{12}(P^1; P^2)$



Nash Equilibrium

12

Colon segmentation

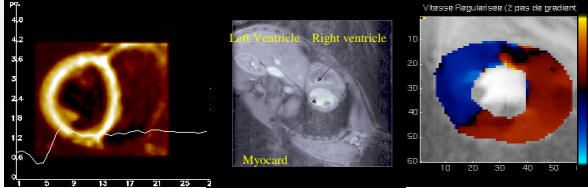


Key question: how much does the tumour invade The colonic wall.

Ack Sorantin

Clinical Knowledge

Myocardial functional imaging



Imaging of contraction - perfusion

Automatic Estimation of regions of interest from 1st passage in NMR

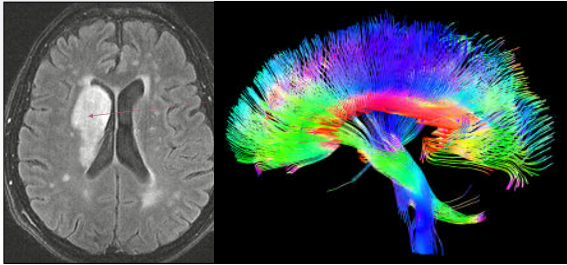
Estimation of contraction (Vx) intra-myocardial NMR velocity estimation Markovian approach

Hibernation - Stunning

14

Prognosis and Treatment

Cerebral Vascular Accident



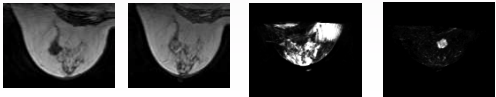
15

Tools – Registration and Fusion

Modelling and Atlases

- Non-rigid registration
 - change detection
 - voxel-based morphometry
 - segmentation

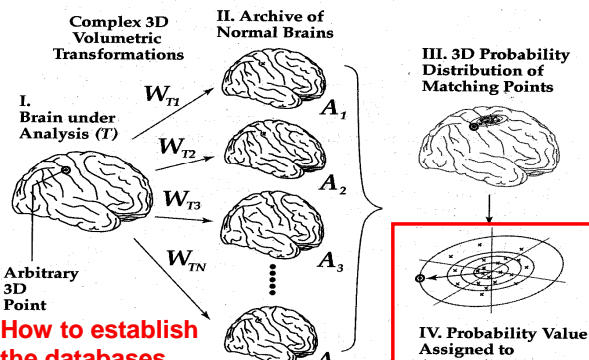
Ack IRC/ Rueckert



Pre-contrast Post-contrast Subtract Subtract NRR

16

DEFORMABLE PROBABILISTIC ATLAS



I. Brain under Analysis (T)

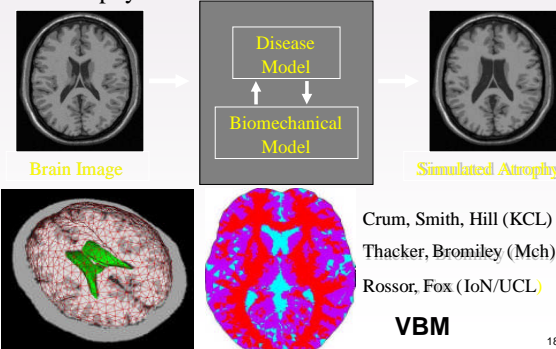
II. Archive of Normal Brains

III. 3D Probability Distribution of Matching Points

IV. Probability Value Assigned to Anatomic Point

How to establish the databases

Modelling Changes in Brain Morphology: Brain Atrophy in Alzheimer's Disease



Brain Image

Disease Model

Biomechanical Model

Simulated Atrophy

Crum, Smith, Hill (KCL)

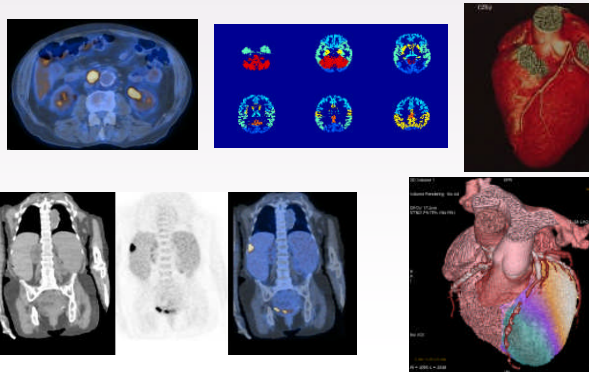
Thacker, Bromiley (Mch)

Rossor, Fox (IoN/UCL)

VBM

18

Quantitation in PET/CT UCL



Ack Ell and Schulthess

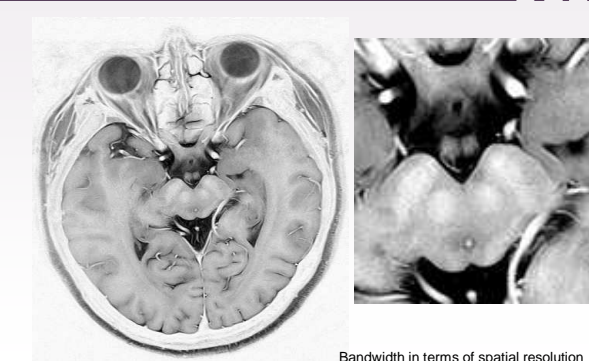
Some Problems UCL

1) **Bandwidth**

- Adequate spatial resolution
- Adequate temporal resolution
- Smart acquisition

20

MRI UCL

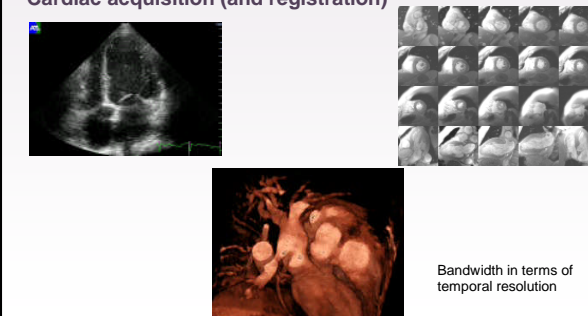


Bandwidth in terms of spatial resolution

Bandwidth v. SNR/ Field of View 21

3D + Time (+ channel) UCL

Cardiac acquisition (and registration)

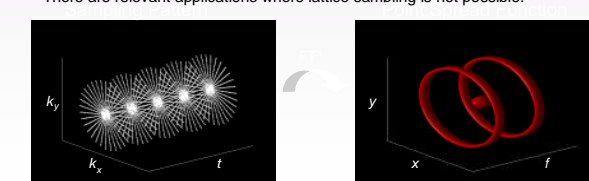


Bandwidth in terms of temporal resolution

Ack U494/U678 22

Pushing the temporal resolution boundary: UCL

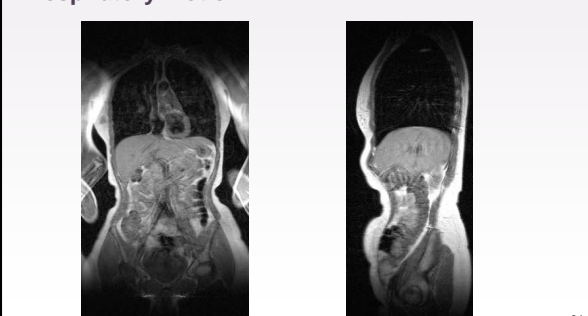
- There are relevant applications where lattice sampling is not possible:



Michael Hansen, et al, ISMRM 2006

Dealing with motion UCL

Respiratory motion



24

Problems UCL

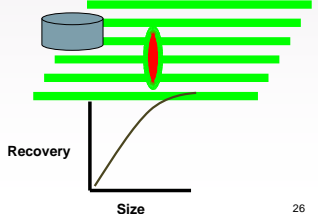
2) Partial volume effects

- Correction and estimation
- Super-resolution
- Towards multi-scale imaging

25

Partial volume effects UCL

- When slice is not fully occupied
- When object is comparable to resolution in slice
- Spatially variant
- Dependent on object shape
- Probably the key limitation with respect to quantification




26

Tomographic Reconstruction UCL

Depth Dependent Resolution Recovery

3 Point Sources

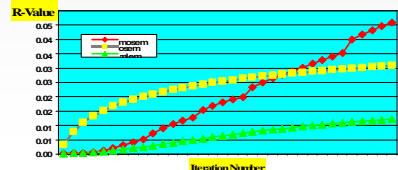


Ak. O'Connor 27

Iterative Tomographic Reconstruction UCL

- Iterative Tomographic Reconstruction
- (Non-Quadratic) Penalty Functions

$$\phi(\theta, \bar{Y}(\theta)) = L(\theta, \bar{Y}(\theta)) - R(\theta)$$

$$R(\theta) = \sum_j \frac{1}{2} \sum_k \omega_{jk} \psi(\theta_j - \theta_k)$$


28

Partial Volume Correction UCL

ROI based operations

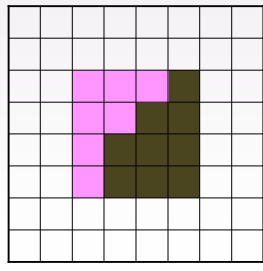
- Generate ROIs
- Create a mixture matrix
 - ROIs v. Compartments
 - Solve for components
 - Corrects for PVE
- Does NOT enhance resolution

$$\begin{bmatrix} C1 \\ C2 \\ \vdots \\ Cn \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} M11 & M12 & \dots & M1n \\ M21 & M22 & \dots & M2n \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ Mn1 & Mn2 & \dots & Mnn \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} R1 \\ R2 \\ R3 \\ \vdots \\ Rn \end{bmatrix}$$

29

Sub-voxel operations UCL

- Label on sub-pixel are defined from higher resolution image
- Higher resolution image resolution downgraded to SPECT/PT pixel size
- PVE defined if no. of compartments (labels) is fixed.



30

PVE corrections

- PVElab (FP6 project)

[1] Meltzer CC. J Cereb Blood Flow Metab 1996;16:650-8
 [2] Muller-Gartner HW, et al. J Cereb Blood Flow Metab 1992;12:571-83
 [3] Rousset OG, et al. J Nucl Med 1998;39:904-11
 [4] Prinster A, et al. HBM2002,S20183

Fixed Parameters : original image = 64x62 pixels, $\sigma_g=0.1$, $\sigma_{reg}=0.4$, $\lambda_{reg}=2.0$

Number of low-resolution images

1 2 3 4 5

1 2 3 4 5

31

The use of higher resolution data (CT...) to correct for Attenuation and partial volume

UCL

318

G El Fakhri et al. Absolute activity quantitation in simultaneous I-123/Tc-99m brain SPECT. J Nucl Med 2001; 42 : 309

Molecular Imaging

- Viewing physiological processes
 - Direct uptake of tracers
 - Indirectly via activated receptors
 - Major applications
 - Oncology
 - Cardiology
 - Neurology
 - Impact on gene expression and therapy

33

The process

UCL

34

Drug discovery and small animal scanners

Rat bone scan

- Rat: 400g, 65x250mm
- 5mCi Tc99m-MDP
- 30min. scan, 1.5h p.i.
- Apt3, $\phi=2.0$ mm
- scan range 250mm

zoom of rat spine μ imaging 20-400 μ m

250mm

400g rat

30g mouse

50mm

Ack Schramm

35

Combining Biomedical Optics and Radioisotope tracers

PET

Optical

Using a priori information

36

3) From Diagnosis toward therapy

- PET/CT (Fusion)
- Surgical Planning
- Image guided intervention
- Evaluation

37

PET / CT - Fusion

Courtesy of: Liselotte Højgaard, MD DMSc, Annika Eigtved, MD ph.d., Anne KillBerthelsen, MD, PET & Cyclotron Unit, Dept. Nuclear Medicine, Rigshospitalet, University of Copenhagen.

Malignant melanoma with normal liver CT & US

38

PET/CT improving cancer treatment
[A different type of quantification]

Tracers- F18- FDG tumour cell volume
IUDR tumour growth MISO hypoxia

Courtesy of Holy Name Hospital

Dierdorf, Univ. of Zurich: Diagnostic Imaging - PET/CT Fusion Proves Its Worth

39

Towards Therapy

A Project –
Ack Unité 494 INSERM, LENA UP 640 CNRS, Unité 483 INSERM, Centre MEG, Service de Neuroradiologie, Hôpital Pitié-Salpêtrière

Pre-operative fMRI → Pre-operative multi-modality visualisation → Per-operative Cortical stimulation → Post-operative fMRI

Establishing a clinical interface
Integrating statistical models

How to make it practical/ routine⁴⁰

*in collaboration with existing projects

Functional images and surgery

Before surgery → After surgery

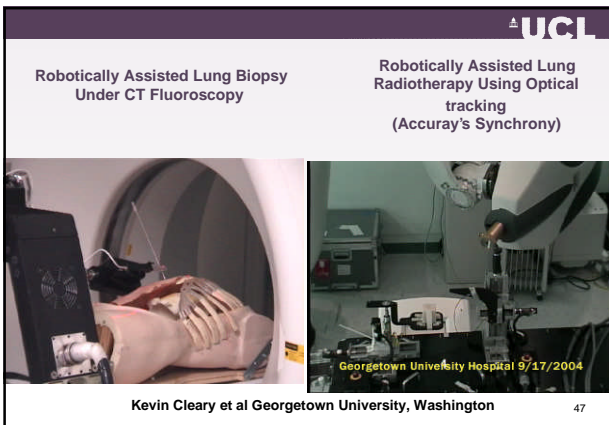
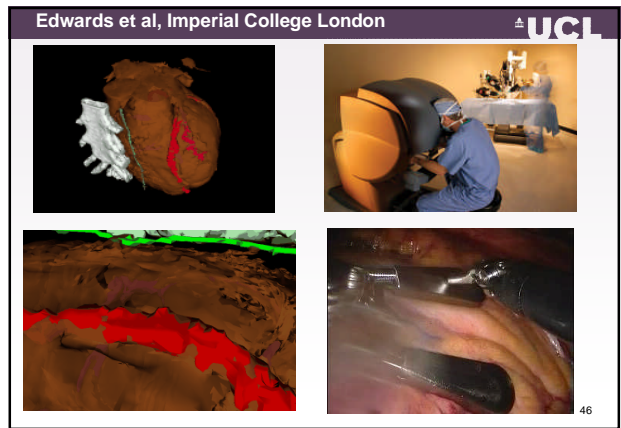
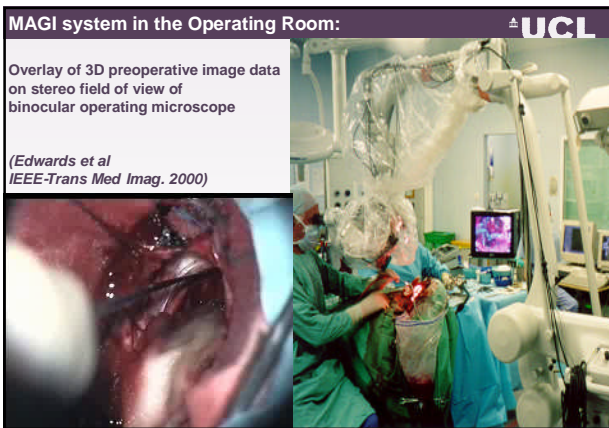
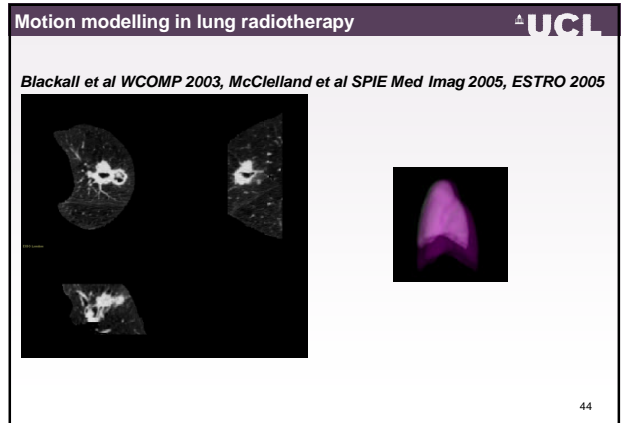
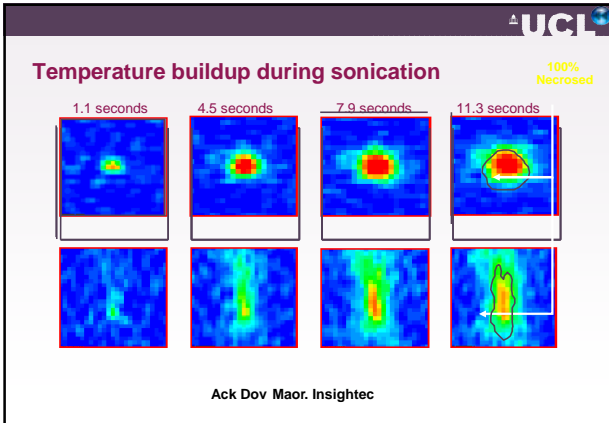
Ativation maps → Association maps

Ack U494/u678

41

RF Ablation of Lung Tumours

Images Courtesy of Bill Lees




How to evaluate / validate

- Testing on simulated data (in silico)
- Results on phantoms
- Results on clinical data (clinical trials)

Rt Lt
Intercostal Ictal

How do you evaluate-measures and statistics?

- True positive and false positive rates
- Probabilistic distances
 - Hausdorff distance (largest difference)
- Volume and volume overlap
- Interclass correlation coefficient
 - Williams (modified) index
- ??? How to measure false negatives???



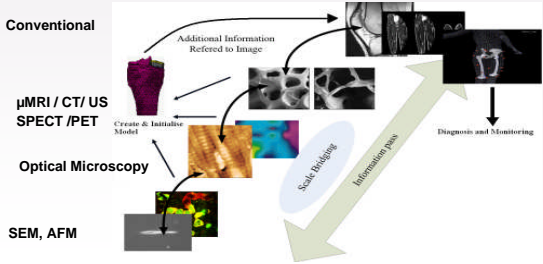
Valmet software www.ia.unc.edu/public.valmet

49

Back to Sub-topic

Multiscale Imaging

- Model relates underlying structure to clinical image



Conventional

μ MRI / CT / US
SPECT / PET

Optical Microscopy

SEM, AFM

Additional Information Referred to Image

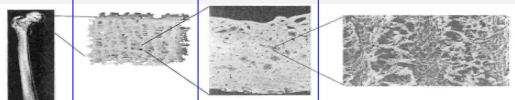
Diagnosis and Monitoring

Scale Bridging

Information flow

50

Levels of Structural Organization



Whole Bone Level
- The structural organization is determined by the bone external and internal geometry, the bone density distribution and the bone anisotropy

Trabecular Bone Level
- Trabecular architecture
- Length scale of trabecular thickness 100 μ m

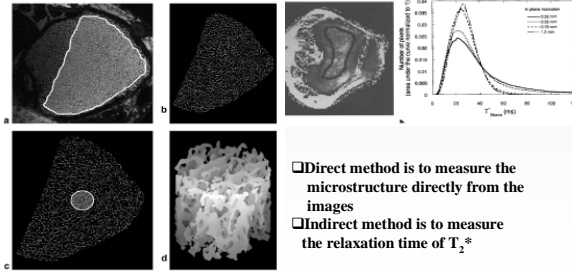
Bone Tissue Level
- Structure is merely determined by the porosity of the bone due to Haversian canals, lacunae, and canaliculi

Bone Ultrastructural Level
- The structure is determined by the organization of the apatite and collagen that form the constituents of the bone tissue. (figure taken from Marotti G 1996, Ital. J. Anat. Embryol. 101 25-79)

Ack. Bert van Rietbergen Finite Element Modeling. The Physical Measurement of Bone, 475-510

51

Quantitative MRI for Bone

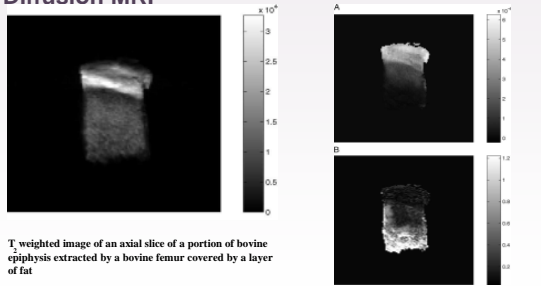


Direct method is to measure the microstructure directly from the images

Indirect method is to measure the relaxation time of T_2^*

52

Diffusion MRI



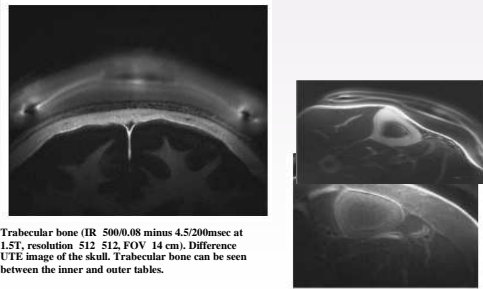
T weighted image of an axial slice of a portion of bovine epiphysis extracted by a bovine femur covered by a layer of fat

MD and FA maps of an axial slice of a portion of epiphysis covered by a layer of fat

C. Rossi et al. / Magnetic Resonance Imaging 23 (2005) 245-248

53

Ultrashort TE (UTE)



Trabecular bone (IR 500/0.08 minus 4.5/200msec at 1.5T, resolution 512 512, FOV 14 cm). Difference UTE image of the skull. Trabecular bone can be seen between the inner and outer tables.

Ack Bydder

54

Multi-scale Imaging

Texture analysis
Microstructural information

55

Parameters for Structure Analysis

Scale: Bone Volume Fraction, Structural Thickness

Orientation: Structural Anisotropy

Topology: Plate-like Structure, Connectivity Node Density

3D rendition of TB core
Cubic sub-region of (a)
Skeleton representation and topological assignment using the colour coding in (a)

Felix W. Wehrli, Ph.D. JOURNAL OF MAG RES IMA 25:390-409 (2007)

56

Finite Element Methods

Volumetric Spatial Decomposition into rods and plates

spatially decomposed trabecular bone structures

Image Guided Failure Assessment of Bone

FE Model

Ack R. Muller et al

57

A multiscale method

Sample Preparation: Breeding, Compression casting, Staining

Data Acquisition: μ CT Scan (16 μ m), ROI Selection, SR μ CT Scan (1.4 μ m), SEM (0.14 μ m)

Data Analysis: Segmentation, Verification, Visualization, Morphometry

Framework of hierarchical imaging

S. Heinzer et al. / NeuroImage 32 (2006) 626 - 636

58

Structure of Articular Cartilage

- Zonal orientation of collagen

Surface of cartilage

Superficial

Middle

Radial

Calcified

59

Articular Cartilage

- Imaging cartilage is challenging
- Thin (<4mm), leads to significant partial volume effect
- Osteoarthritis (OA) common cartilage disease, significant area of current research interest
- Early detection of OA – changes to structure
- Monitor potential treatments
 - Disease slowing drugs?
 - Disease altering drugs?
- Intervention
 - Knee Replacement
 - Graft

MRI of Cartilage

- Imaging cartilage

Burstein 2003 61

Imaging Matrix Constituents

- T2 and T1rho mapping
- Comparison to histology

Menezes 2004 62

Imaging Matrix Constituents

- DTI

Bi 2007, Deng 2007 63

Modelling Articular Cartilage

- A number of models have been created to describe the mechanics of cartilage
- Model parameters to describe cartilage

Cartilage matrix element	
Collagen hydration water	PG "free" water
Dry Collagen	PG hydration water
	dry PG
Collagen network	PG gel

Quinn 2007 64

Modelling Articular Cartilage

- Multiscale methods provide a better fit to the data than single scale equivalents

Multiscale modelling flowchart, applied to a mechanical model of cartilage

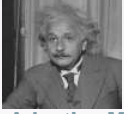
Agoram 2001 65

Modelling Mouse AC

- Model can be tuned to describe composition of mouse articular cartilage through data obtained with histology

66

Adaptive Multiscale Modeling
The Vision of Einstein



Einstein: "The model used should be the simplest one possible, but not simpler."

Adaptive Multiscale Modeling: "Start with a *simpler model*, based on a single scale and uncoupled physical processes, and then adaptively introduce additional scales to permit coupled multiscale-multiphysics considerations, whenever and wherever these are needed, until the *simplest possible model* is obtained."

67

Adaptive Multiscale Modeling

- Model transition schemes
 - Pollution errors at the interface for continuous-continuous and continuous-discrete transitions
 - Mathematically consistent discrete-continuum transition

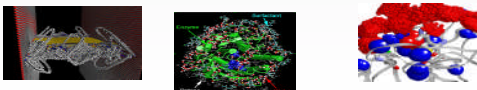
Is stochastic modeling required?

- Probability error estimators
- Multiscale sensitivity analysis

MSERC

Stochastic Nature of Multiscale Problem

- Physical uncertainties (loads, domain, material properties)
- Statistical uncertainties (amount of data available, probability fields such as correlations)
- Model uncertainties (mathematical modeling of physical behavior)

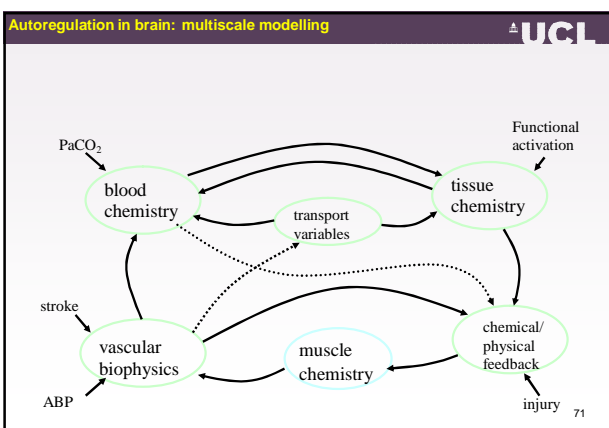


MSERC

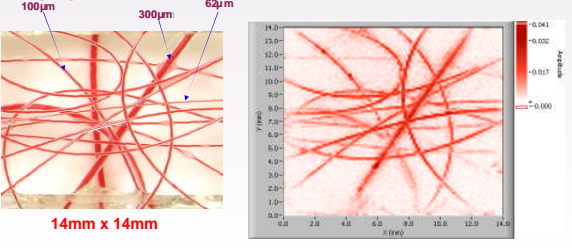
Other related topics

- Brain autoregulation modelling
- Cardiac Modelling
- 3D Anatomical Human
- Physiological Human

70



Imaging of blood filled tubes in intralipid by photoacoustic imaging (P. Beard UCL)



- Excitation: 800nm (6.7mJ/cm²); pulse duration=8ns
- Lateral scanning step-size: 140µm

72

Cardiac Modelling UCL

Ack Harvard Ack INRIA Ack Noble/ Hunter

73

Models UCL

Virtual Human
 NLM

3DAnatomical Human ->
 Physiological Human

The National Library of Medicine's
 Visible Human Project

74

3D Anatomical Human
Physiological Human UCL

MIRALab - University of Geneva

75

The Future of Medicine? UCL

- Preventive medicine
 - Including environment
- Personalised Medicine
 - Using the -omics (genomics/ proteomics ...)
- Keyhole/ robotic surgery
 - Implanted devices
- Nanotechnology
 - Biolab
 - MEMS (micro electro-mechanical systems)
 - Lab-on-a-chip micro-arrays and diagnosis
 - Drug production
- **Complex Systems**
 - **Mathematical biology**
 - **Modelling and simulation**

76

