Image segmentation techniques for biomedical modeling

Alexander Danilov

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Institute of Numerical Mathematics, Russian Academy of Sciences Moscow Institute of Physics and Technology

Bioimpedance and ECG modeling technology



A. A. Danilov, et al. Modelling of bioimpedance measurements: unstructured mesh application to real human anatomy. RJNAMM, 2012.

Image segmentation

User-guided segmentation

ITK-SNAP – free software for Visualization and Segmentation www.itksnap.org



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High resolution segmented model of VHP torso



567 \times 305 \times 843 voxels 1 \times 1 \times 1 mm 26 organs and tissues



Total 146m voxels, 68m material voxels









Personalized segmentation



Mesh generation

Unstructured tetrahedral meshes

CGAL Mesh (www.cgal.org) – Delaunay mesh generation Ani3D (sf.net/p/ani3d) – mesh cosmetics



413 508 vertices, 2 315 329 tetrahedra, 84 430 boundary faces

Full body male and female models



3m tetrahedra

effective resolution: 1 × 1 × 1 mm 30 tissues



3D model of heart, atria and ventricles

Biomedical applications

Bioimpedance measurements model



lung hydration



sensitivity areas of segmental scheme

Forward ECG calculation



VHP model, CGAL Mesh + Ani3D/AniMBA, Ani3D/AniFEM + Chaste Leads $s = \phi_h \cdot \mathbf{p}_h$, ϕ_h - cardiac potential, \mathbf{p}_h - precalculated

Dynamic left ventricle model

Problem

- Aim: hemodynamics modeling in heart ventricles
- Equations: 3D Navier-Stokes, Arbitrary Lagrange-Euler
- Domain: left ventricle, valves boundary conditions
- Dynamics: ventricle walls reconstructed from ceCT images
- Data: ceCT, 100 images, 1.27 seconds
- + Resolution: 512 \times 512 \times 480, raw data 24 Gb
- Patient: anonymized, female, 50 years old
- Problem: generation of dynamic mesh from ceCT images



Initial ceCT image Nº50



Smoothed ceCT image №50



Manual segmentation №50



Automatic segmentation №80

Dynamic left ventricle model



Blood vessels segmentation

Automatic patient-specific segmentation



Coronary arteries segmentation

Automatic patient-specific segmentation



Cerebral arteries segmentation

Automatic patient-specific segmentation



Overview of pipeline

A. Danilov, et al. Methods of graph network reconstruction in personalized medicine. IJNMBE, 2015.

Aorta segmentation

- 1. Hough circleness transform
- 2. Thresholding
- 3. Fast isoperimetric distance trees
- Mathematical morphology operations



L. Grady. Fast, quality, segmentation of large volumes - isoperimetric distance trees. Computer Vision - ECCV 2006.

Coronary vessels extraction

- 1. Ostia points detection
- 2. Frangi vesselness filter
- 3. Distance ordered homotopic thinning
- 4. Skeleton cleaning



A.F. Frangi et al. Multiscale vessel enhancement filtering. MICCAI'98, 1998.

Coronary vessels segmentation

	- k , F	S.
	Case 1	Case 2
Resolution	512 × 512 × 248	512 × 512 × 211
Spacing	0.37 × 0.37 × 0.40	0.46 imes 0.46 imes 0.48
Aorta segmentation	5.80 sec	5.19 sec
Frangi Filter	91.76 sec	73.94 sec

Bone elimination



H.A. Gratama van Andel. Removal of bone in CT angiography by multiscale matched mask bone elimination. Medical Physics, 2007.

Frangi filter – naive approach





Additional preprocessing is essential! Cavities and pulmonary vessels elimination

Aorta segmentation



Aorta automatic segmentation

Frangi filter – final steps



Arteries correction post-processing

Distance map is used for correct order of leaks elimination

	Case 1	Case 2
Resolution	$512 \times 512 \times 501$	$512 \times 512 \times 451$
Spacing	$0.76\times0.76\times0.80$	0.62 imes 0.62 imes 0.80
Multiscale MMBE	11.20 sec	10.10 sec
Cavities elimination	7.76 sec	7.04 sec
Aorta segmentation	16.61 sec	15.33 sec
Frangi Filter	196.40 sec	184.91 sec
Bifurcation detection	7.61 sec	6.67 sec
Leak elimination	7.39 sec	6.76 sec

Vessels sceletonization



Micro-CT of vascular corrosion cast of rabbit kidney provided by J. Alastruey, Department of Bioengineering, Imperial College London, UK.

Fast and robust centerline extraction

C. Pudney. Distance-ordered homotopic thinning: A skeletonization algorithm for 3D digital images. Computer Vision and Image Understanding 1998.

Skeletonization

A.		
	Case 1	Rabbit kidney
Resolution	$512 \times 512 \times 248$	2000 × 1989 × 910
Distance map	0.20 sec	58.12 sec
Thinning	0.79 sec	526.98 sec
False twigs cleaning	0.15 sec	16.61 sec
Graph construction	0.13 sec	12.27 sec
Skeleton segments	22 + 6	4302 + 2142

- Developed high-resolution 3D segmented and FEM models of male and female bodies
- Proposed methods for patient-specific segmentation
- Developed numerical methods for bioimpedance and ECG modelling
- Automatic coronary and cerebral arteries segmentation
- Robust skeletonization and graph reconstruction