

The Breast Tomography Project University of California, Davis

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#### **OTHER CONFLICTS**

Patents Pending on various breast CT concepts Izotropic Imaging, board member

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Introduction

**Technology Development Radiation Dose Assessment Image Quality Metrics Clinical Observations Observer Performance Other Cool Spinoffs Summary** 







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Heather



Nelson

Krupinski









John Brock

#### **Cancer Mortality and Screening**





#### Mammography: Standard of Care



CC

MLO

# **Dedicated Breast CT**



#### **Dedicated Breast CT**

#### Mammography



#### Introduction

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# Hardware



#### Components





## **Doheny: Design**



**Gantry Views** 



George Burkett, M.S.







#### Computer aided design / computer aided manufacture (CAD/CAM)







#### **Doheny: Mechanical Fabrication**





# **Doheny: Wiring**



#### before

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# Software Integration

#### **Software: Hardware Integration**





Peymon Gazi, Ph.D.



DOHENY



Filter and Collimator stepper motors

console computer recon computer

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# Calibration Software

# Calibration(s)





Automatic acquisition (QC software) of 11 different exposure levels to detector (each with 100 averaged images)



mΑ

23



$$I(x, y)_{corr} = \overline{g} \quad \frac{\left[I(x, y)_{raw} - A_{raw}(x, y)\right]}{\left[B(x, y) - A(x, y)\right]}$$

calibration data files



#### **Corrected (flat fielded)**

# Calibration(s)



#### **Geometric calibration:** System → software



detector plane



Х

$$u_{wr} = y_{obj} \cdot \frac{D + u_{wr} \cdot \sin \phi}{C + x_{obj}} \cdot \frac{1}{\cos \phi}, \ v_{wr} = z_{obj} \cdot \frac{D + u_{wr} \cdot \sin \phi}{C + x_{obj}}.$$

#### **Geometric calibration:** System → software



 $X_{center ray}$  $Y_{center ray}$  $\Delta x$  $\Delta y$ SIC

Physical scanner geometry **—** Reconstruction algorithm

# Multi-Source X-ray to reduce Cone Beam Artifacts



Multi-source x-rays

detector

# Multi-Source X-ray to reduce Cone Beam Artifacts



# **Defrise Phantom: One X-Ray Source**



#### **One X-Ray Source, Line Plot Defrise Phanton**



# Individual source acquisitions



# Corgi Phantom



# Cadaver Breast

One Source





Difference Image



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# Reconstruction & Post-processing

#### **FDK Reconstruction Code**


### High Scatter environment





### **Cupping Artifact**

### Mathematical Flat Fielding of Breast CT images



$$\mathbf{g}_{\mathrm{A}} = \mathbf{Q}_{\mathrm{A}} \boldsymbol{\beta} + \boldsymbol{\varepsilon}$$

original image

segmented image  $\mathbf{Q}_{\mathrm{A}} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{1} & \mathbf{x}_{\mathrm{A}} & \mathbf{y}_{\mathrm{A}} & \mathbf{z}_{\mathrm{A}} & \mathbf{x}_{\mathrm{A}}\mathbf{y}_{\mathrm{A}} & \mathbf{x}_{\mathrm{A}}\mathbf{z}_{\mathrm{A}} & \mathbf{y}_{\mathrm{A}}\mathbf{z}_{\mathrm{A}} & \mathbf{x}_{\mathrm{A}}^{2} & \mathbf{y}_{\mathrm{A}}^{2} & \mathbf{z}_{\mathrm{A}}^{2} \end{bmatrix}$ 



# capping



# cupping



corrected

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# Spectral Optimization

**Summary** 





# Spectral Optimization:

- Physical measurements
- Tube potential and filtration studies
- Soft tissue (adipose/glandular)
- Iodine contrast (iodine/adipose)



### Spectral Optimization:

- Modeled spectra using TASMICS
- Dose calculated from Monte Carlo studies



### Contrast to Noise evaluation



$$CNR = [M_{signal} - M_{bg}] / \sigma_{bg}$$











### Soft Tissue CNR







### Iodine CNR



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Phase 1: Cylinders

# **Radiation dose is size dependent!**



2001 tape measure results (N = 200)





X = 13.4 cm  $\sigma$ = 2.0 cm Median = 13.6 cm

2008 assessment on bCT images (N = 137)



# **Monte Carlo Assessment of Dose Deposition**



#### monoenergetic functions



# Breast CT Dose (UCD) equivalent to 2-view mammography

### polyenergetic functions



#### Radiation Dose (2003)

#### A comprehensive analysis of $DgN_{CT}$ coefficients for pendant-geometry cone-beam breast computed tomography

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Phase 2: Breast Shapes

#### 219 Breast CT data sets



categorized by breast volume placed into 5 groups (43 per)



Each group used to compute median shape



V1 - V2 - V3 - V4 - V5



### Six phantoms (V1-V6)



Mean volume and shape in each quintile

### **Monte Carlo Assessment of Dose Deposition**

#### monoenergetic functions



#### realistic breast shaped modeled



# Average glandular dose coefficients for pendant-geometry breast CT using realistic breast phantoms

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(Received 17 March 2017; revised 6 June 2017; accepted for publication 26 June 2017; published 20 August 2017)







spectral model(s)

MC-derived monoenergetic  $DgN_{CT}$  values

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Phase 3: Skin & density distributions

# The effect of skin thickness determined using breast CT on mammographic dosimetry

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(Received 24 October 2007; revised 15 January 2008; accepted for publication 17 January 2008; published 6 March 2008)





### Computed skin thickness for 100 women

#### Skin thickness ~ 1.5 mm

### The characterization of breast anatomical metrics using dedicated breast CT

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#### Glandular tissue distributions (coronal plane)



#### Glandular tissue distributions (sagittal plane)



bra cup size: A,B,C,D Modeled Radial Glandular Fractions in compressed phantoms → Mammography Dosimetry



### Validating Methodology



### DgN(E): homogeneous vs. heterogeneous



# Breast dose in mammography is about 30% lower when realistic heterogeneous glandular distributions are considered

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(Received 22 April 2015; revised 11 August 2015; accepted for publication 15 September 2015; published 9 October 2015)

### realistic breast shaped modeled



### **Back to Breast CT Dosimetry**

Updated breast CT dose coefficients (DgNCT) using patientderived breast shapes and fibroglandular distributions

Submitted to Medical Physics Sept 2018



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Spatial Resolution

# **Performance Metrics**

### **Spatial Resolution**



Image a 70  $\mu$ m wire

$$LSF(x) = \int PSF(x, y) dy$$
$$MTF(f) = \int dx \, LSF(x) \, e^{-2\pi i f x}$$

# spatial resolution modeling



### **Engineering impacts resolution**



### Engineering impacts resolution pulsed acquisition (4 ms)

1.0 Center of FOV 0.9 0.8 0.7 0.6 Ц 0.5 0.4 Cambria 0.3 0.2 1.0 0.1 0.9 0.0 0.8 3.0 0.0 1.0 2.0 4.0 Spatial Frequency (lp/mm) 0.7 0.6 Ц 0.5 0.4 Cambria Edge of FOV 0.3 0.2 0.1 0.0 0.0 1.0 2.0 3.0 4.0 Spatial Frequency (lp/mm)




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Noise Power Spectra

# **Performance Metrics**

#### **Contrast Resolution**



#### **Contrast Resolution:** NPS measurements

$$NPS(u,v) = \frac{\left|F(u,v)\right|^2}{N_X N_Y} \Delta_X \Delta_Y$$











cone angle

#### Noise Power Spectrum (NPS) measurements (Bodega)



Yang et al., Noise power properties of a cone beam CT system for breast cancer detection, Med Phys. 2008

# Noise Power Spectrum (NPS) Analysis

• Detrending using image subtraction with identical parameters

 $K(x,y) = I_{\rm A}(x,y) - I_{\rm B}(x,y)$ 

$$NPS(f_{\rm x}, f_{\rm y}) = \frac{1}{N} \frac{\sum_{i=1}^{N} \left| \text{DFT}_{2\rm D}[K_{\rm i}(x, y) - \overline{K}_{\rm i}] \right|^2}{2} \frac{\Delta_{\rm x} \Delta_{\rm y}}{N_{\rm x} N_{\rm y}}$$

32 ROIS [128 x 128]

$$\sigma^2 = \iiint NPS(f_x, f_y) df_x df_y$$

# Noise Power Spectrum (NPS) Analysis





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# Preliminaries

# **Before Patient Imaging**

























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Breast CT images

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### **Clinical Studies**

- BIRADS 4 and 5 women (headed to biopsy)
- >600 patients imaged over several clinical trials
- ~275 patients with iodine contrast
- Past: (1024 x 768) 500 views over 360° 512 x 512 x N reconstruction
- Now: (2048 x 1536) 500 views over 360° 1024 x 1024 x N reconstruction
  - 150 um isotropic voxels





first breast cancer imaged: January 2005





# Contrasted Enhanced breast CT



Malignant

benign







SNM





## **Invasive Mammary Carcinoma**



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clinical comparisons

Clinical Example 1: Masses



Clinical Example 2: Masses



# Clinical Example 3: calcs



mammogram

bCT

С.

d.

f.

g.



# Clinical Example 4: more calcs



# Temporal subtraction contrast-enhanced dedicated breast CT

## Peymon M Gazi<sup>1,2</sup>, Shadi Aminololama-Shakeri<sup>2</sup>, Kai Yang<sup>3</sup> and John M Boone<sup>1,2</sup>

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Received 1 February 2016, revised 12 June 2016 Accepted for publication 27 June 2016 Published 5 August 2016





Pre-contrast bCT (time 0) Post-contrast bCT (time 90 secs)





Case 1 Case 3 Case 4 Case 5 Case 2 335 1100 500 335 pre-con ΠH H HU HU HU Ipost-con -190 -300 -200 -500 190 4 4 4 I seg-post 2 200 0 120 140 140 95 sub-a £ I I I Isub-IDAD -50 30 -35

Subtraction Examples

better quantitation

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Anatomical Noise



A. E. Burgess, F. L. Jacobson, and P. F. Judy, "Human observer detection experiments with mammograms and power-law noise," Med. Phys. 28, 419–437 (2001).



 $NPS(f) = NPS_a(f) + NPS_q(f)$ 



 $NPS_{a}(f) = \alpha f^{-\beta}$ 

### Breast CT, Tomosynthesis, and Mammography Texture Comparisons



# Use breast CT images to generate images of different thickness



#### Anatomical complexity in breast parenchyma and its implications for optimal breast imaging strategies

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### Use breast CT images to generate images of different thickness



#### Anatomical complexity in breast parenchyma and its implications for optimal breast imaging strategies

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# Comprehensive assessment of the slice sensitivity profiles in breast tomosynthesis and breast CT

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Anita Nosratieh

### Tomographic slice thickness as a function of angle and object size



### Tomographic slice thickness as a function of angle and object size





### Breast CT, Tomosynthesis, and Mammography Texture Comparisons



# Mammography



55 mm

### **Breast CT Images**



55 mm



# Tomosynthesis



55 mm



# **Breast CT:** Technology development and clinical potential

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Computer Observer

# **Computer (PWMF) Observer Performance**

### Effect of slice thickness on detectability in breast CT using a prewhitened matched filter and simulated mass lesions

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(Received 11 April 2011; revised 22 December 2011; accepted for publication 25 January 2012; published 14 March 2012)

Signal Known Exactly (SKE)

# Evaluated versus slice thickness (from 0.4 mm to 44 mm)

bCT "mammo"



Real breast CT data sets (N=151)

Simulated Spherical Lesions from 1 mm to 15 in diameter



2

Distance From Edge (mm)

40%

20%

### Simulated lesion insertion into real breast **CT data sets with different slice thickness**

 $f_{sim}[i, j, k] = f[i, j, k] + \Delta I M_{TR}(d[i, j, k]) M([D/2] - d_{IC}[i, j, k])$ 

adaptive lesion insertion model



no lesion

other lesion insertion models

Modulation

Lesion

Intensity

(blurring)





U

#### Pre-whitened Matched Filter (PWMF) Performance



# **Breast CT:** Technology development and clinical potential

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Human Observers

# 2-Alternative Forced Choice Design





~6000 lesions: average of 3 breast imaging radiologists







Shadi Shakeri



#### Karen Lindfors



E...

AUC = 0.87

0 10 20 30 40 50 60 70

**Enhancement (HU)** 

Benign Malignant

EVIE

#### European Journal of Radiology

Contents lists available at ScienceDirect

journal homepage: www.elsevier.com/locate/ejrad



#### Differentiation of ductal carcinoma in-situ from benign micro-calcifications by dedicated breast computed tomography

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80 90 100 110 120

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### ROC performance plots for CE-bCT



Reader 1:  $AUC = 0.98 \pm 0.022$ ; Reader 2:  $AUC = 0.92 \pm 0.042$  Comparison of the AUC from measured lesion enhancement to the average AUC of the two readers



Performance was significantly higher for the radiologists compared to the enhancement values alone (AUC of 0.94 compared to 0.85, p < 0.026).

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### **Image Segmentation**



3D segmented data set

analysis

#### Classification of breast computed tomography data

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Original bCT Slice

Segmented bCT Slice

Composite bCT Slice

# An unsupervised automatic segmentation algorithm for breast tissue classification of dedicated breast computed tomography images

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### **Breast Density Analysis**



# risk assessment & dosimetry validation of 2D approaches (M. Yaffe)

# **Breast Density (amplitude)**

#### The myth of the 50-50 breast

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# **Breast Density (amplitude)**



Median VBD = 16%

### 2.5% loss in breast density every decade



### **Beam Shaping Filter**





3D BMF

V3 Phantom

### Six phantoms (V1-V6)



Mean volume and shape in each quintile



- Physical Dosimetry
- Image Quality Assessment
- Mold for breast immobilization



Aquaplast<sup>®</sup> thermoplastic

hot water bath

molding

breast immobilizer

# **Breast Immobilization & Beam Equalization**



**Breast Alignment System** 



# Titanium 3D Beam Modulation Filter







source-to-filter distance = 8 cm

V3 phantom
## Implementation on bCT Platform



# Clinical Workflow



## MC Simulation Results: Projection





V3 phantom

### MC Simulation Results: Projection





V3 phantom

### MC Simulation Results: SPR





V3 phanto	m
-----------	---

	SPR <sub>central</sub>		
V1	- 11.5%		
V3	-28.1%		
V5	-29.4%		

### MC Simulation Results: SPR





V3 phantom

# **MC Simulation Results: Glandular Dose**

• Normalized to number of quanta reaching detector under thickest region of the breast:

mGy / 10 <sup>9</sup> photon	No Filter	3D BMF	Change
V1	26	17	-34%
V3	45	25	-45%
V5	56	34	-40%

#### **Breast CT:** Technology development and clinical potential

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- Breast CT has superior mass detection than mammography, based upon texture analysis, computer and human observer studies
- CE breast CT highlights malignant calcifications and is likely equivalent to CE-breast MRI
- Breast CT is FDA approved for diagnostic breast imaging, need to push the technology to achieve superior screening performance
- Breast CT is an emerging technology which will have an important role in reducing breast cancer mortality in the near future.

#### **Future Work:**

- Implement beam shaping filter with breast immobilization system
- Compare high resolution non-contrast bCT with mammography for microcalcification detection performance
- Compare CE-bCT with CE-breast MRI for cancer detection performance



University of California Davis



