VIRTUAL STUDIES IN GRATING-BASED PHASE-CONTRAST IMAGING

Janne Vignero



Talbot-Lau Interferometry (TLI)

Transmission Image



Differential phase Image



Dark Field Image



TLI for mammography

Transmission Image



Differential phase Image



Dark Field Image



Calcifications

TLI for mammography

Transmission Image



Dark Field Image



Calcifications

Comparison via contrast-to-noise ratios

TLI for mammography

Transmission Image



Differential phase Image



Comparison via contrast-to-noise ratios

TLI for mammography

Transmission Image



Differential phase Image



Soft tissue contrast

How to quantitatively compare Tr and dP imaging?

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OUTLINE

- Talbot-Lau interferometry
- A hybrid simulation framework
 - generate 'realistic' imagines that match those

of a TLI scanner

- A detectability study
 - a task-based study
 - human reader studies (4-AFC)
- Application: mammography

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Illumination by a **homogeneous** x-ray field



Creates intensity disturbances at the edges



Illumination by a **homogeneous** x-ray field



Illumination by a periodic x-ray field



Creates intensity disturbances at the edges



Allows to measure the intensity shifts in addition to the edges



Also referred to as 'grating-based' phase-contrast imaging

Periodic x-ray field is created by a grating; 'the Talbot effect'



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dT/8 dT 2dT Distance



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Periodic x-ray field is **measured** by a grating



For each pixel we measure an average intensity pattern

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For each pixel we measure an average intensity pattern with and without object



For each pixel we measure 3 parameters \Rightarrow 3 images can be constructed







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□ INTRODUCTION ■ TLI □ SIMULATIONS □ DETECTABILITY STUDY □ APPLICATIONS □ CONCLUSION
How to quantitatively compare Tr and dP imaging?

Transmission Image



Differential phase Image





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1. BETA VERSUS DELTA





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 p_2

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The period of the interference pattern 'p₂'

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Decreased by

- Polychromatic source
- Finite width G0 slits
- Finite height G2 grating
- Beam divergence





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Benchmarking the CH-TLI setup

System	CH-TLI	Birnbacher et al. [2016]	Michel et al. $[2013]$
d [cm]	4.35	85.7	15.9
$p_2 \ [\mu m]$	2	5.4	2.4
Sensitivity $[10^5]$	1.37	9.97	4.16
Visibility	22%	38.7%	20.7%
$(S_s \cdot v)_{rel}$	1.00	12.8	2.90
α_{min}	$1.64 \cdot 10^{-7}$	$1.7 \cdot 10^{-8}$ rad	-

2. 'd, p_2 ' the system sensitivity

3. 'v', the system visibility



2. PROJECTION VERSUS DIFFERENTIAL IMAGING



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2. PROJECTION VERSUS DIFFERENTIAL IMAGING



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2. PROJECTION VERSUS DIFFERENTIAL IMAGING





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How to quantitatively compare Tr and dP imaging?



Comparing experimental data will be very hard, but even for theoretical data (where the ground truth is

known) there is no approach available as we cannot compare S_{Tr} with S_{dP} .

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How to quantitatively compare Tr and dP imaging?

Performance metric:

Relative dose required for a lesion to be detectable in Tr and dP

Use virtual studies to benchmark the dP performance against the Tr performance

 \rightarrow Requires a simulation platform to produce rapidly 'realistic' dP and Tr images

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HYBRID IMAGE MODELLING

Numerical wave propagation

Computationally expensive, not practical for virtual studies where you need a lot of data and large fields of view.



Hybrid image modelling

Combining analytical equations with experimentally measured metrics

HYBRID IMAGE MODELLING



	Transmission (Tr)	Differential phase (dP)
Signal	$S_{Tr} = \exp(-\mu t) = \exp(-2k\beta t)$	$S_{dP} = \frac{2\pi d}{p_2} \tan\left(\frac{\partial \delta t}{\partial x}\right)$
Noise	$\sigma_{Tr} \propto \frac{1}{\sqrt{PV}}$	$\sigma_{dP} \propto \frac{1}{\sqrt{PV}} \cdot \frac{1}{v}$





$$S_{Tr} = \exp(-\mu t)$$

= $\exp(-2k\beta t)$



MTF : measured G_{FS}: analytical





R = random generated values with a zero mean and a unit variance





$$\sigma_{Tr} = \frac{S_{Tr}}{\sqrt{PV}} \sqrt{1 + \frac{1}{S_{Tr}}} \qquad \text{NF}$$

NPS : measured PV: measured









 $-\log()$

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$$S_{dP} = \frac{2\pi d}{p_2} \tan\left(\frac{\partial \delta t}{\partial x}\right)$$

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MTF : measured G_{FS}: analytical

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R = random generated values with a zero mean and a unit variance

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HYBRID IMAGE MODELLING

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-0.5

-1

0

x [cm]

0.5

x 10⁸

HYBRID IMAGE MODELLING

In vivo scan mouse

Model is based on segmented uCT data



(a)

(d)

RESEARCH QUESTION

How to quantitatively compare Tr and dP imaging?



Transmission Image

Differential phase Image



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TASK BASED DETECTABILITY STUDY

Relative dose required for a lesion to be detectable

= measure of relative performance

Via a four alternative forced choice study























Zhang et al., SPIE proceedings (2016)

Psychometric curve fit





Zhang et al., SPIE proceedings (2016)

Psychometric curve fit – threshold at 62.5%





Psychometric curve fit – threshold at 62.5%



Zhang et al., SPIE proceedings (2016)

If you want to do this for every task it is very time consuming. Make it more general.

Liver in adipose bg with radiation dose of *x*



Liver in adipose bg with radiation dose of *w*



blood in muscle bg with radiation dose of y



blood in muscle bg with radiation dose of *z*



Definitions FOM

$$FOM_{Tr} = \frac{\min(I_{Tr}) - \max(I_{Tr})}{\sigma_{Tr}}$$
$$FOM_{dP} = \frac{\max(\int |S_{dP}| dx)}{\sigma_{dP}}$$

Should scale with detectability

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Liver in adipose bg with radiation dose of *x*





Liver in adipose bg with radiation dose of *w*





Definitions FOM

$$FOM_{Tr} = \frac{\min(I_{Tr}) - \max(I_{Tr})}{\sigma_{Tr}}$$
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Should scale with detectability

Only valid for same task shape!



- Simulate. Simulate set of Tr and dP images (bg and obj) with signal and noise combinations ranging between undetectable to detectable
- 2. FOM.
- 3. 4AFC.
- 4. Thresholds.
- 5. EAK(62.5%).
- 6. RP.



- Simulate. Simulate set of Tr and dP images (bg and obj) with signal and noise combinations ranging between undetectable to detectable
- 2. FOM. Calculate the FOM of each of the images.
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- 5. EAK(62.5%). Calculate the EAK_{Tr} and EAK_{dP} for a given application (combination of bg and obj materials) to reach respectively the FOMTr and FOMdP
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- 4. Thresholds. Calculate the threshold FOM_{Tr} and FOM_{dP}
- 5. EAK(62.5%). Calculate the EAK_{Tr} and EAK_{dP} for a given application (combination of bg and obj materials) to reach respectively the FOMTr and FOMdP
- 6. **RP.** The relative performance of an application = EAK_{Tr}/EAK_{dP}

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APPLICATIONS

Application 1. Sphere/lesions of different sizes

5.3 mm diam







1.3 mm diam

Lesion

Shaheen E. et al., Med. Phys. 41(8), 2014



APPLICATIONS

Application 1. Sphere/lesions of different sizes

5.3 mm diam



. M.

5.3 mm diam









APPLICATIONS: HOMOGENEOUS BG

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5.3 mm diam







APP	LICATIC	NS: HOM	OGENE				5.3 mm diam		
Арр	olication 1.	Sphere/lesions	of differen		Compositions Hammerstein G. et al., Rad., 130 , 1979 Johns P.C., Yaffe M.J. , Phys. Med. Biol. 32 (675), 1987				
		Transmission				Differential phase			
1.	Simulate.	FO	= 0.34		FO	5) = 2.16			
2.	FOM.		0.04		1 Cividp(02.070) = 2.10				
3.	4AFC.	$FOM_{Tr} = \frac{\min(I_{Tr}) - \max(I_{Tr})}{\sigma_{Tr}}$				$FOM_{dP} = \frac{\max(\int S_{dP} dx)}{\sigma_{dP}}$			
4.	Thresholds.	Background	lesion	EAK(62.5%) [mGy]		Background	lesion	EAK(62.5%) [mGy]	
5.	EAK(62.5%).	adipose	tumour	0.007(1)		adipose	tumour	0.71(6)	
6.	RP.	Glandular	tumour	0.030(4)		Glandular	tumour	6.7(5)	

APPLICATIONS: HOMOGENEOUS BG

Application 1 Sphare/legions of different sizes											
Application 1. Sphere/lesions of unierent sizes											
		Transmission					Di	ise			
1.	Simulate.				Background	lesion		RP			
2.	FOM.				adipose	tumou	ır	0.0010(2)			
3.	4AFC.				Glandular	tumou	ır	0.0045(7)			
4.	Thresholds.		Background	lesion	EAK(62.5%) [mGy]		Γ	Background	lesion	EAK(62.5%) [mGy]	
5.	EAK(62.5 %).		adipose	tumour	0.007(1)	-		adipose	tumour	0.71(6)	
6.	RP.										
			Glandular	tumour	0.030(4)			Glandular	tumour	6.7(5)	
		-				-					

Application 1. Sphere/lesions of different sizes



For our system, we do not expect dP to outperform Tr imaging for these tasks

Application 1. Sphere/lesions of different sizes



For our system, we do not expect dP to outperform Tr imaging for these tasks

APPLICATIONS

Application 2. Mammo


Application 2. Mammo

	Uniform		Mammographic
	Adipose	glandular	background
$\mathrm{EAK}_{\mathrm{Tr}}$	0.0007(1)	0.030(4)	0.032(4)
EAK _{dP}	0.71(6)	6.7(5)	3.1(2)
RP	0.0010(2)	0.0045(7)	0.011(2)



Application 1 & 2. Discussion

Diff Phase imaging does not outperform Tr imaging for our system setup.



But our system is not the state of the art system

Application 1 & 2. Discussion

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$$RP \propto \left(\frac{d}{p_2} \cdot \nu\right)^2$$

But our system is not the state of the art system



Application 1 & 2. Discussion

With reasonable system optimization dP outperforms Tr for some tasks! However, this is only an approximation



Magnification, different detector and source properties,...

Application 1 & 2. Discussion

Orientation background affects dP performance





Horizontal oriented bg



Vertical oriented bg

Horizontal structures are not detected in dP

Application 1 & 2. Discussion

Orientation background affects dP performance



Exploit this feature when developing TLI mammo systems because human breast has inherent orientation?

Application 1 & 2. Conclusion

CH-TLI system not good enough, but other systems in the literature might have sufficient system quality for dP to outperform Tr

But TLI is a promising tool for the detection of small lesions in a complex background

DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSION





Computer simulations can be used to quantitatively estimate the feasibility

of applications and/or to estimate the required system quality in TLI