

INTERNSHIP REPORT

Savonia University of Applied Sciences



SAVONIA
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Type: The internship information technologies,

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1 Company

I have got my summer practice at Institute of Data Processing and Electronics, which belongs to the Karlsruhe Institute of Technology (KIT). The organisation's visitor address is Hermann-von-Helmholtz-Platz 1, 76344 Eggenstein-Leopoldshafen, Germany and mailing address is Karlsruhe Institute of Technology (KIT) - Campus North, Institute for Data Processing and Electronics (IPE), P.O. Box 3640, 76021, Karlsruhe, Germany. The phone number is +49 721 608 2 2027, an e-mail address is info@ipe.kit.edu, ipe.kit.edu is the webpage of the organisation. I worked under supervision of Dr. Torsten Hopp, his e-mail address is torsten.hopp@kit.edu and the phone number is +49 721 608-25990. The internship period is from the 7th of July to the 18th of November.

1.1 General Information

Karlsruhe Institute of Technology is one of the largest research and education organisation in Germany. In 2009, University of Karlsruhe¹ merged with Karlsruhe Research Center Forschungszentrum Karlsruhe². The institute has leadership in the Engineering and Natural Sciences in Europe, ranking sixth overall in citation impact.

The total budget of KIT €844 million, the total number of staff is over 10 thousands and over 7 thousands of them is academic staff. There are 24.5 thousands of students, 12.6 thousands of them are undergraduates, 8,3 thousands are postgraduate and over 8 hundreds are doctor students.

1.2 Staff

I was a part of 3D USCT team. USCT and Big Data together form the Software Methods group of IPE. The Head of Software Methods group is Dr. Rainer Stotzka. The permanent part of USCT team consists of:

- Dr. Nicole Rüter - the head of 3D USCT
- Dr. Torsten Hopp - responsible for image processing and data management
- Michael Zapf - responsible for hardware and public relations
- Prof. Dr. Hartmut Gemmeke - former head of IPE, Advisor of 3D USCT

Other team members are students who are doing internship or writing thesis at the institute.

2 History

2.1 KIT History

A polytechnical school of Karlsruhe was founded on the 7th of October 1825. In 1865, the school was raised to the status of an institution of higher education. Since 1885 the organisation was called Institute of Technology. Karlsruhe Nuclear Research Centre was opened in 1956. In 1967, it started to be called University.

University of Karlsruhe opened a central computer laboratory and became one of the leading German institutions in computer science, in 1966. As I already noticed, Karlsruhe Research Centre and Karlsruhe Institute of Technology merged together at 1 October 2009.

2.2 IPE History

IPE was founded as a part of Institute for Neutron Physics and Reactor Technology in 1959. It evolved to the Centre of Data Processing Department Laboratory Automation in 1967-1971. In 1973, the Computing Centre Data Processing and Laboratory for Electronics and Measurement Instrumentation merged in Department for Data Processing and Instrumentation. In 1991, the Department Data Processing and Electronics became independent from the Department for Data Processing and Instrumentation. Since 2001, the organisation is called Institute for Data Processing and Electronics.

¹Founded in 1825

²Based on national nuclear research center opened in 1956 and called Kernforschungszentrum Karlsruhe, or KfK

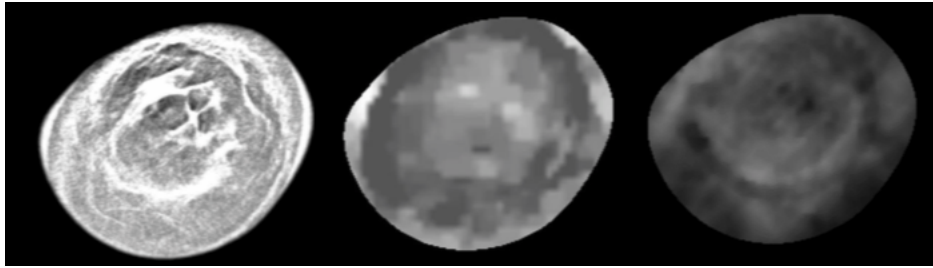


Figure 1: Examples of reflection, sound speed, attenuation images

3 Work description

3.1 Project description

I worked in a project called 3D Ultrasound Computer Tomography, shortly USCT. The main goal of the project is development of new image methodology for early breast cancer detection. This type of cancer is one of the most common and dangerous one among women. A breast is not a vital organ, so the most part of patient dies of metastasis, a tumor with size less than 5mm has very low probability of metastasis. That's why, an early diagnostic of breast cancer significantly increase survival probability of the patient. The USCT team's aim is detection of the tumor with average size small than 5mm.

The USCT detector is able to produce three different types of images(Pic. 1):

1. Reflection - contains general structure
2. Sound speed - map of the soundspeed distribution
3. Attenuation - map of the sound wave's amplitude attenuation

The sound speed and attenuation images give doctors an opportunity to classify lesions precisely, while the reflection's one allows them define type of the structure. I worked on fusion of this three different images into the single one, because it makes an analysing easier.(Figure 2)

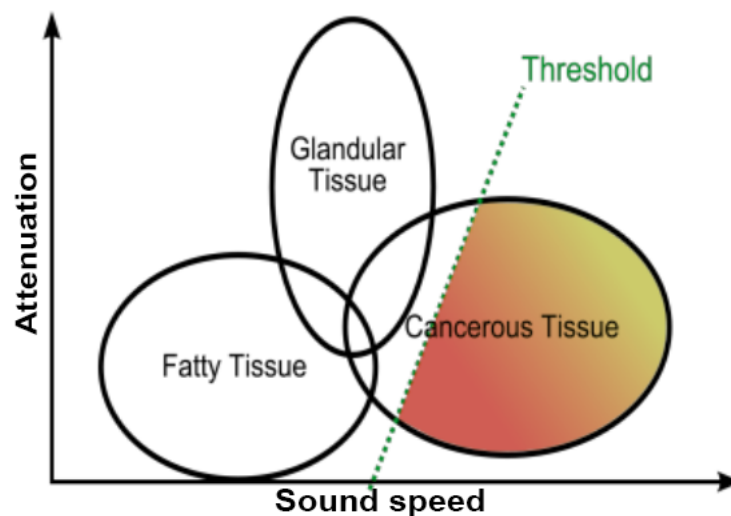


Figure 2: Tumor clasification based on sound speed and attenuation

3.2 Position description

3D USCT volumes are converted into stacks of 2D images along specified standard slicing directions used in radiological workflows. They are presented to radiologist using USCT's customized edition of DICOM Viewer, which is based on the ImageJ Framework and the Tudor DICOM Viewer. The position title is Visualization of multimodal 3D USCT volume images. So, the aim of this internship is to explore new intuitive ways of multimodal data visualization, create the prototype of the methods and implements the visualisations in the customized DICOM Viewer. The software should be extended accordingly to allow interactive access to the visualization, e.g. to allow user specified input for setting thresholds, choosing projection directions etc.

I also have had my personal goals related with the intnernship:

- Improve skills on object-oriented programming with Java improve knowledge of MATLAB
- Gain experience in digital image processing
- Get experience in team work on real-life project
- Learn software development workflow

3.3 Work description

3.3.1 Prototyping

The most part of my internship I worked on development of new fusion technics for 3D USCT images under supervision of Dr. Hopp. During the first week I made literature research and came up with several idea for realisation of the fusion. After that I made a prototypes for three best of them in MATLAB. The picture ?? demonstrates prototype of HSV Fusion.

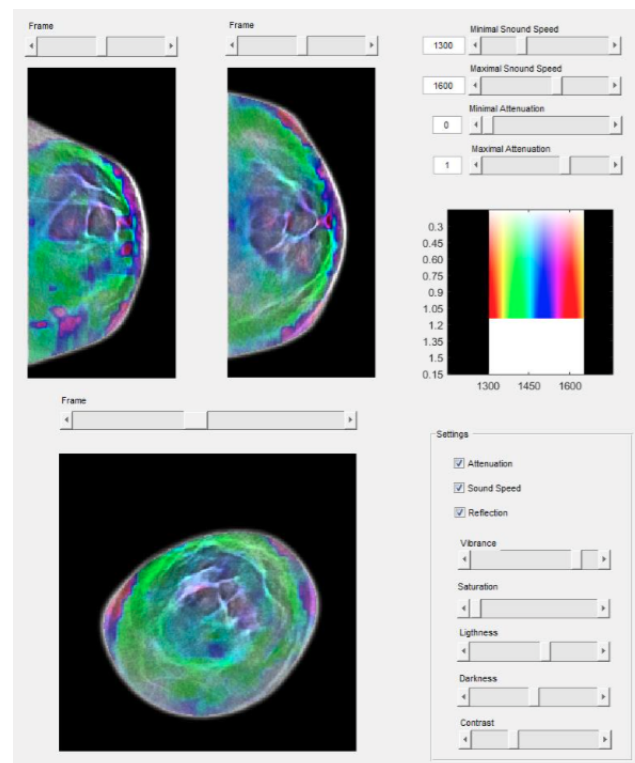


Figure 3: MATLAB prototype for HSV Fusion

3.3.2 HSV Fusion

HSV Fusion was the best solution for fusion of 3D USCT images I founded. The algorithm is based on HSV color model. The model divides color of every pixel into three separate components:

- Hue - keeps chromatic information (how red, green, blue etc. is the pixel)
- Value - keeps grayscale information (how bright is the pixel)
- Saturation - keeps an information about saturation of the hue (how the color far away from grayscale)



Figure 4: Components of HSV image from top to bottom: Hue, Value, Saturation.

The components are shown on the figure 4. The color space of the model can be represented as a cylinder, where: altitude is the Value, saturation is radius from center and angle is hue, look at figure 5.

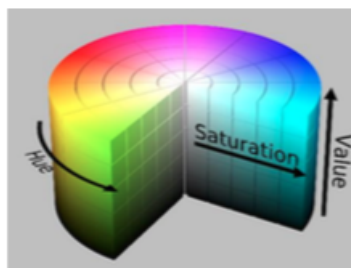


Figure 5: Model of HSV color space

To get the final result of the fusion the algorithm transfers the image from HSV to RGB color model. The visual representation of the conversion is shown in figure 6.

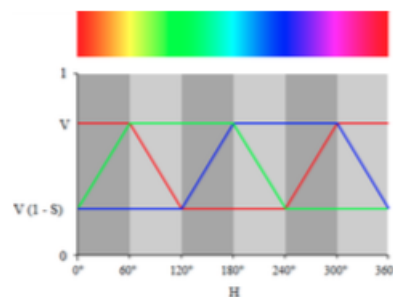


Figure 6: Visual representation of HSV to RGB conversions

3.3.3 DICOM Viewer realisation

The prototype was presented to the Software Methods groupe of IPE. The realisation get positive feedback from the team and I started the realisation of the algorithm in DICOM Viewer with ImageJ.

The DICOM realisation has a little bit more simple user interface, to make it more understandable for an end user. Sound speed thresholding were added to the final version of fusion, figure 7.

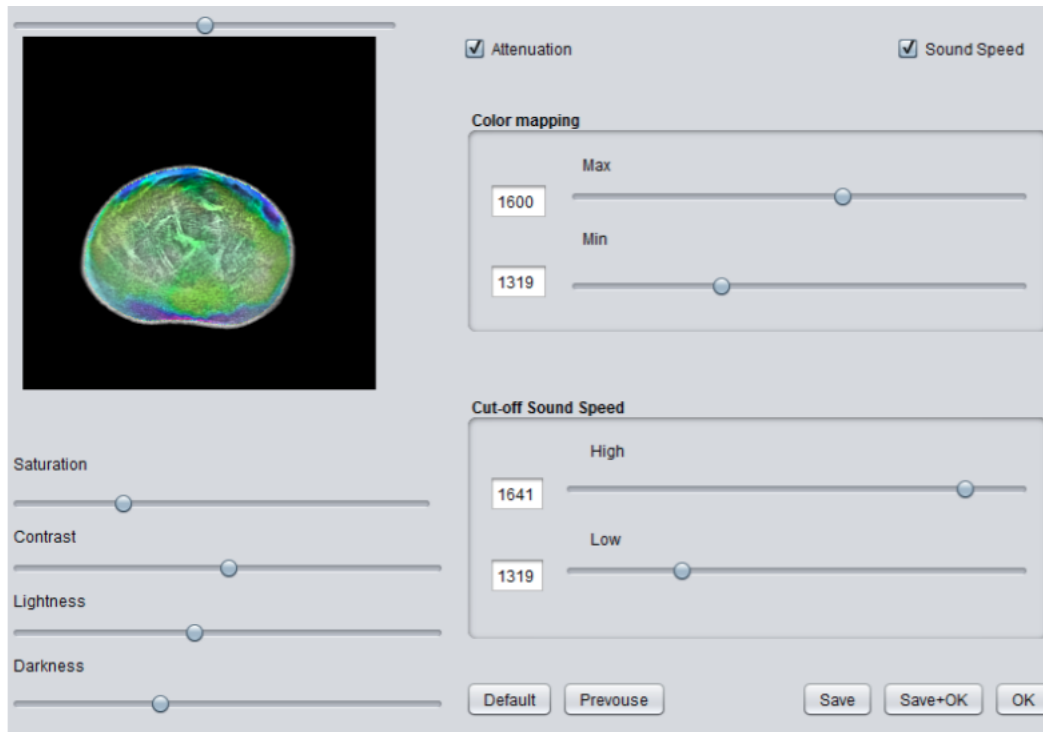


Figure 7: DICOM Viewer HSV Fusion Menu

3.3.4 Re-slicing

As I mentionet before DICOM Viewer keeps three different stacks of images with different slicing directions for an every breast, but any of this three stacks contains enought information for visualising of all three slicing directions.

My task was to implement the reslicing algorithm whihc allows DICOM Viewer recalculate all three slicing directions from any of them. If density a long different axis is not uniform the algorithm also had to be interpolated data.

Re-slicing is very useful feature for DICOM Viewer, because it will tow times reduce size of the database and it will give an opportunity to brows different slice directions of MRI images³.

³Usually, MRI imgaes has only one slicing direction