

# GRACE HOPPER CELEBRATION



ANITA  
B.ORG

# Virtual Reality for Brain Surgeries



Enhancing Visualization + Improving  
Patient Outcomes

Prachi Shah

# PRACHI SHAH

- Software Engineer at Verily (Google Life Sciences)
- Carnegie Mellon MS in Computer Science
- Love working on side projects (like this one!)
- Goal: Unite Health and Computer Science



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# AGENDA



Overview



The Problem



3D Modeling



Virtual Reality



3D Printing

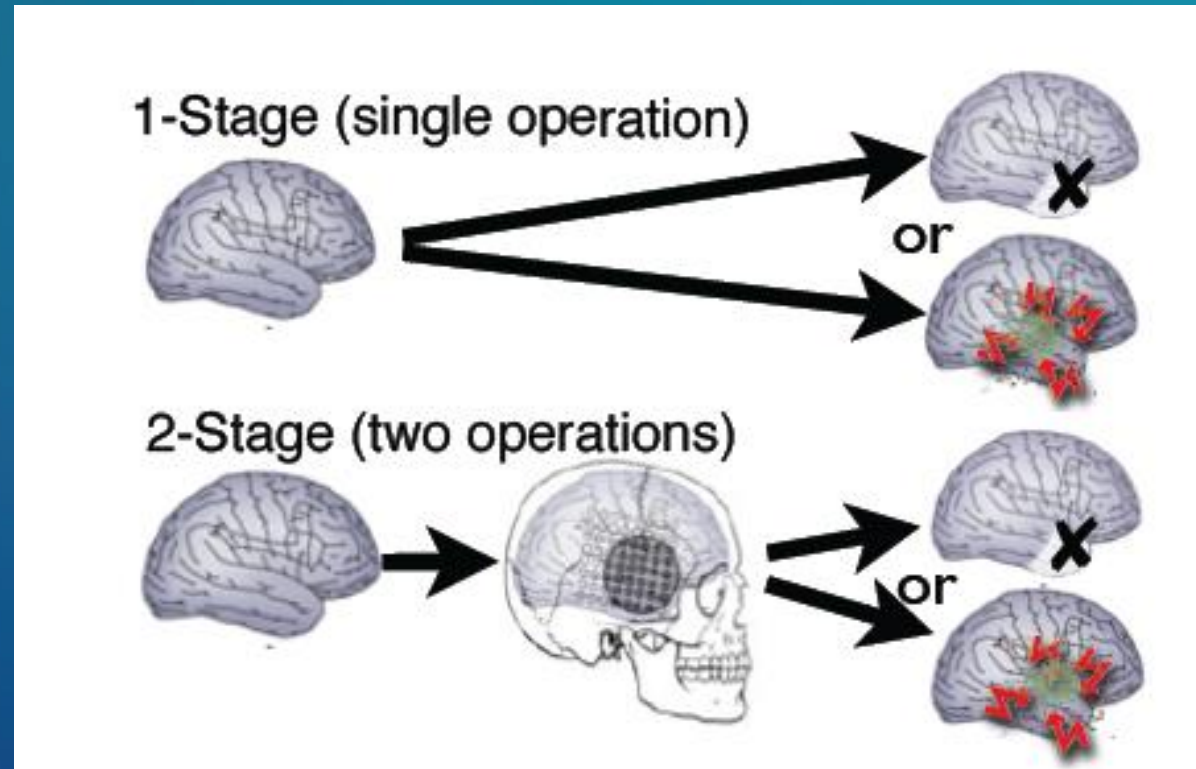


Next Steps

# OVERVIEW

- Started with Epilepsy
- Goal: Plan surgeries carefully to resect less of the brain

Epilepsy Surgery requires brain resection.  
Below are two types of surgery:



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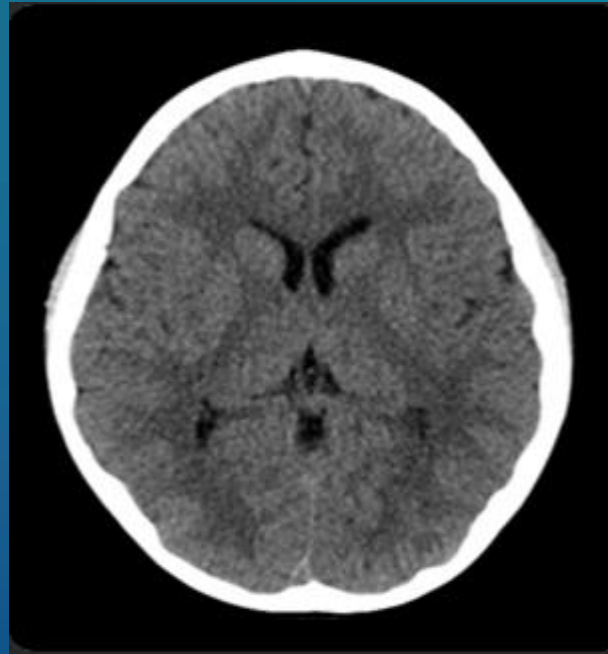


Next Steps

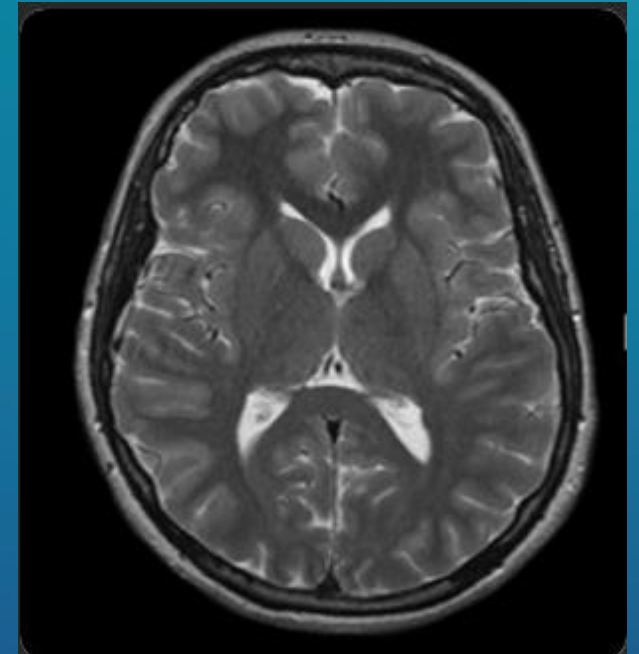
# THE PROBLEM

- Current Visualization is Two Dimensional
- The Planning Process isn't Patient Specific

Doctors use two dimensional CT, MRI, PET scans to visualize 3D organs



MRI SCAN



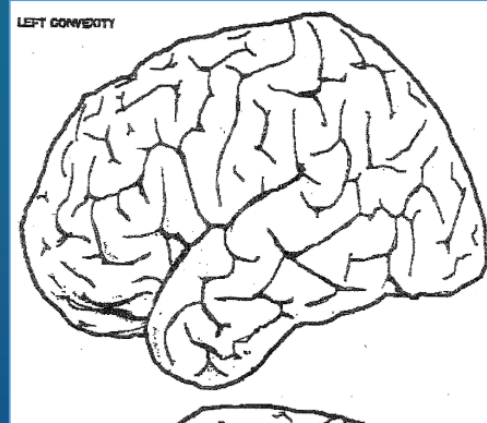
CT SCAN



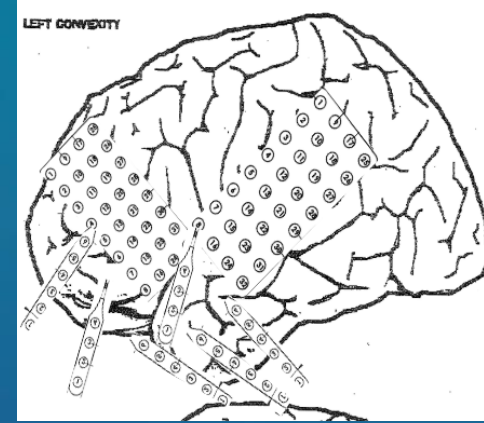
# THE PROBLEM

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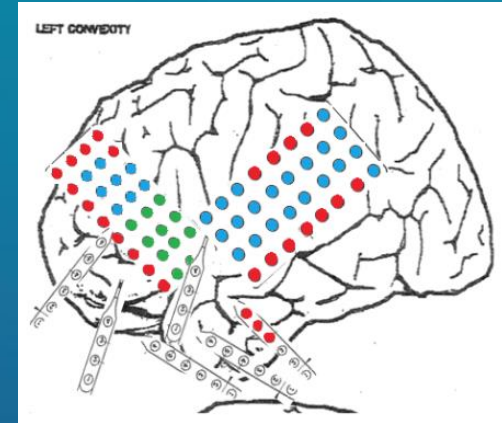
Doctors use the same surgical planning process regardless of medical abnormality or demographic characteristics



STEP 1



STEP 2



STEP 3



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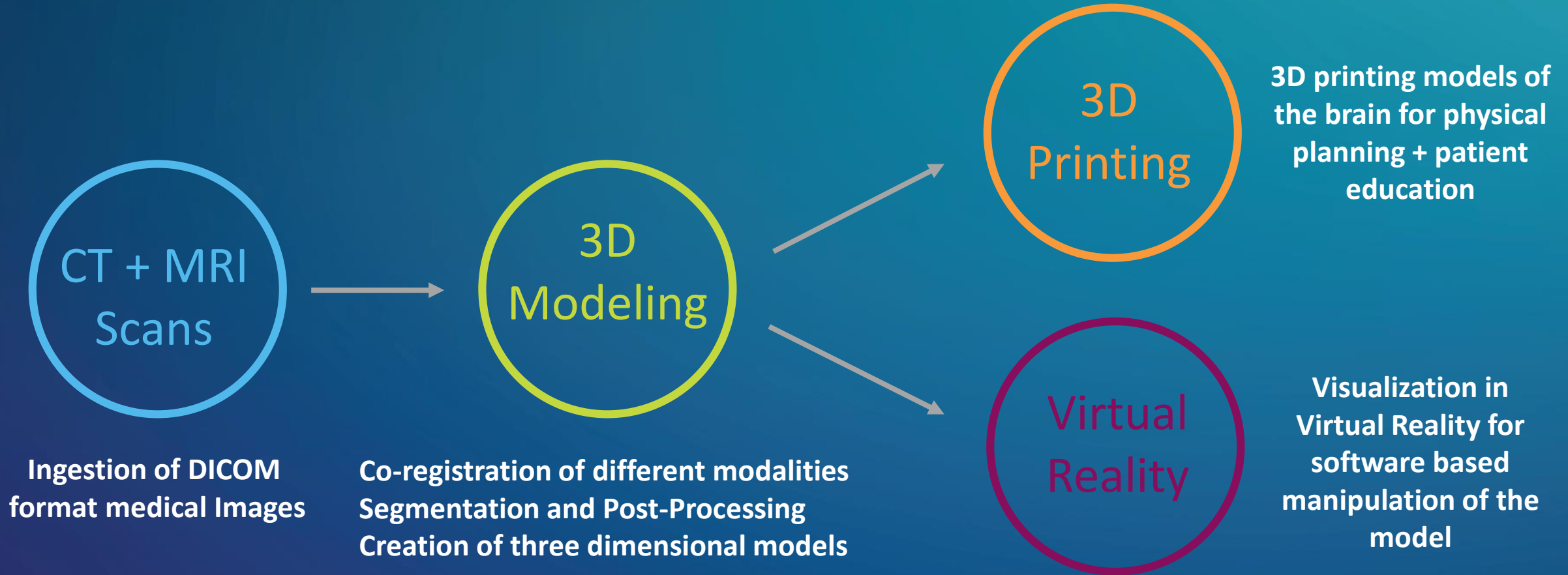


3D Printing



Next Steps

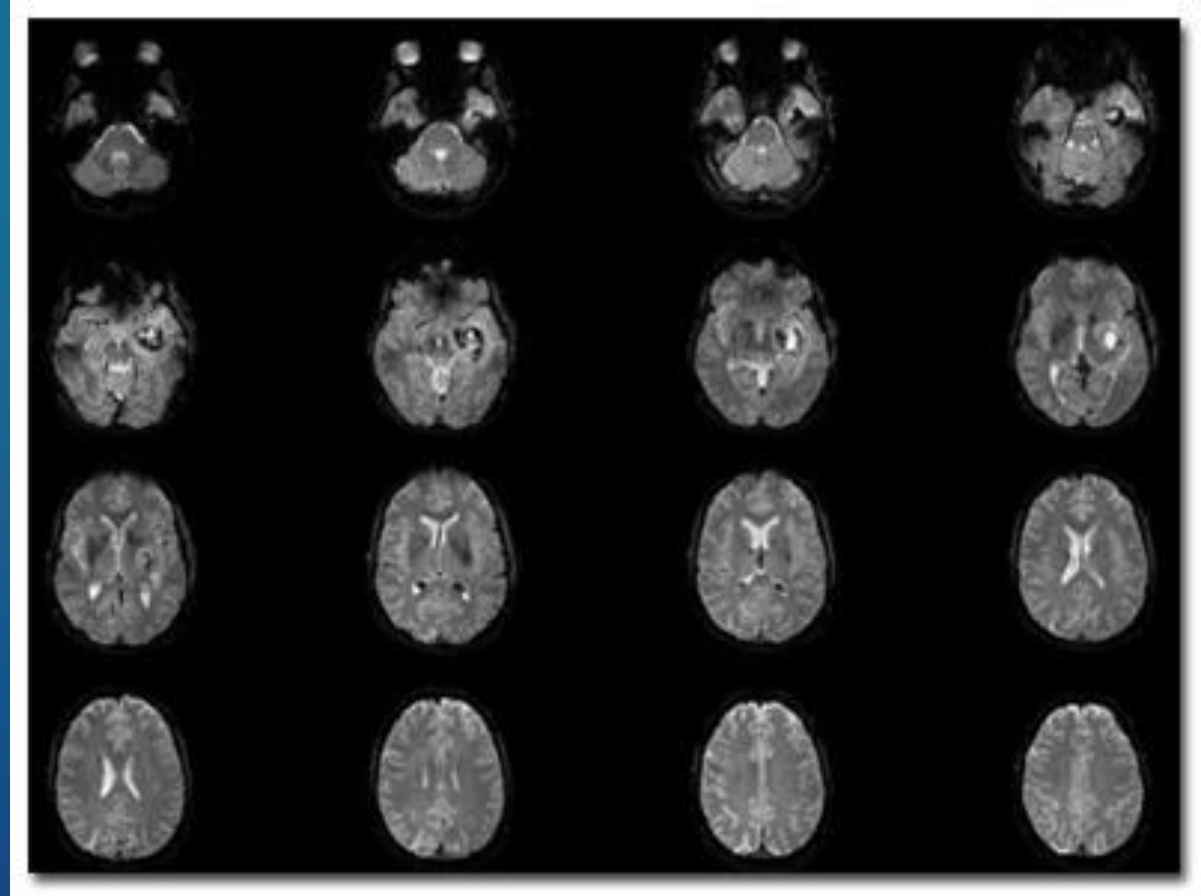
# THE SOLUTION



# IMAGE INGESTION

- Different Modalities: MRI, CT, PET Scans
- Images are Ingested in DICOM format

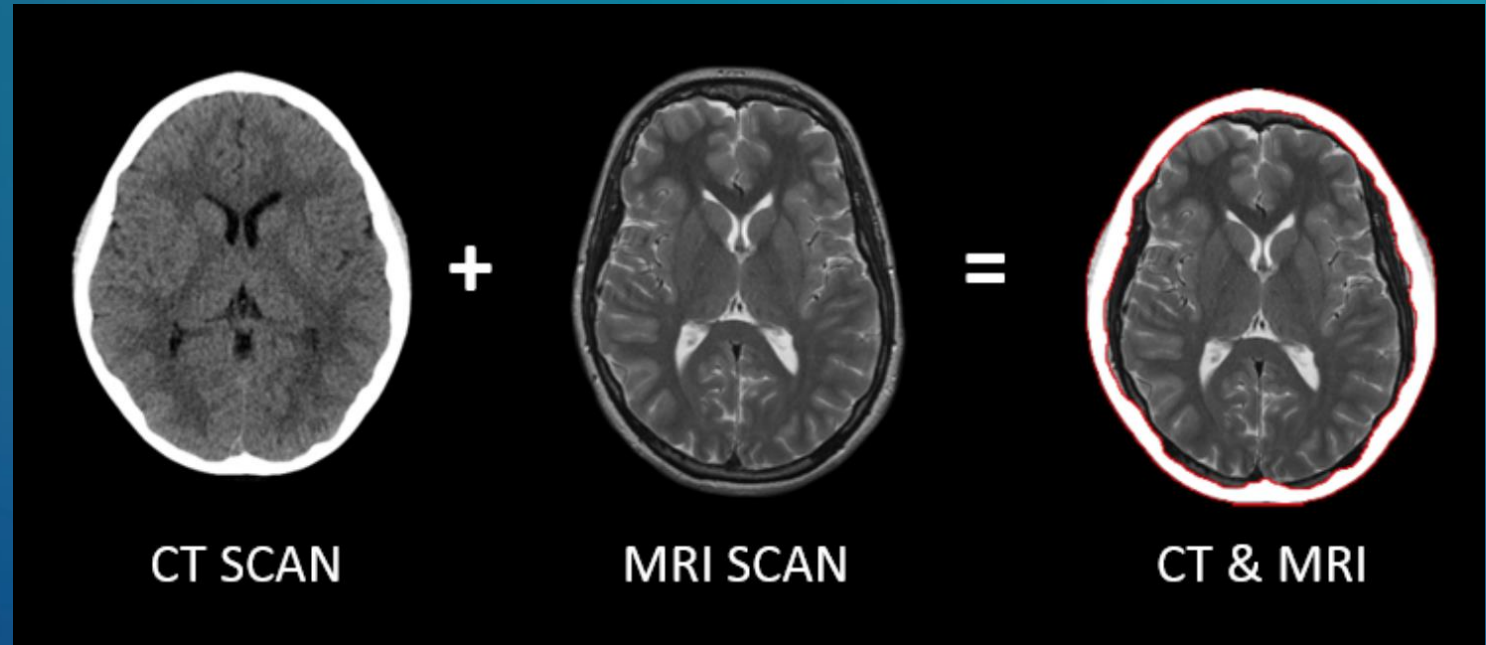
A series of slices (DICOM images) that represent the patient's brain are ingested



# CO-REGISTRATION

- Matlab's Statistical Parametric Mapping (SPM) Toolbox
- Account for different image formats, image sizes, pixel to mm ratios, and color schemes

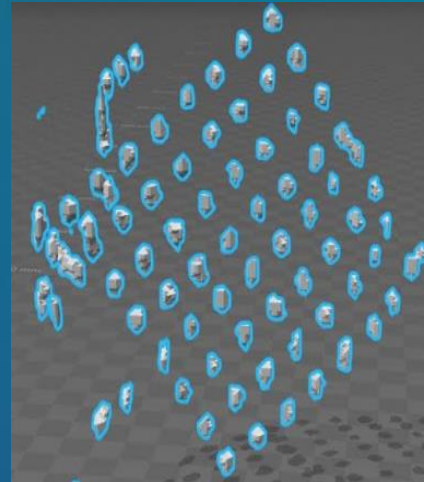
Overlay various modalities with distinct artifacts in the same 3D space



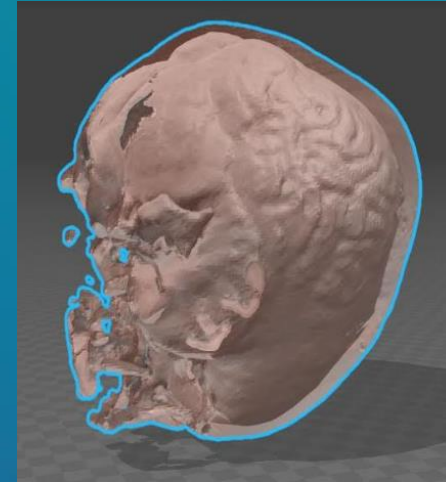
# SEGMENTATION

- Separate the 3D brain model in different layers so we can manipulate each one individually

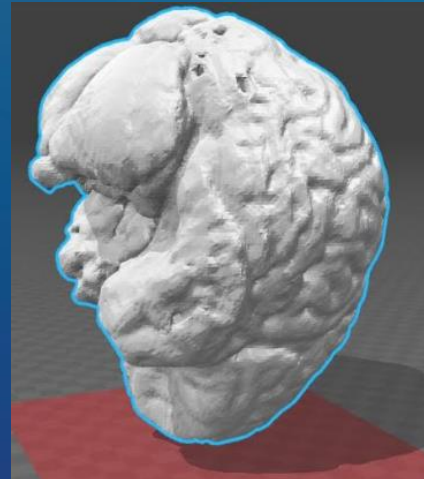
Different layers were segmented from the 3D brain model



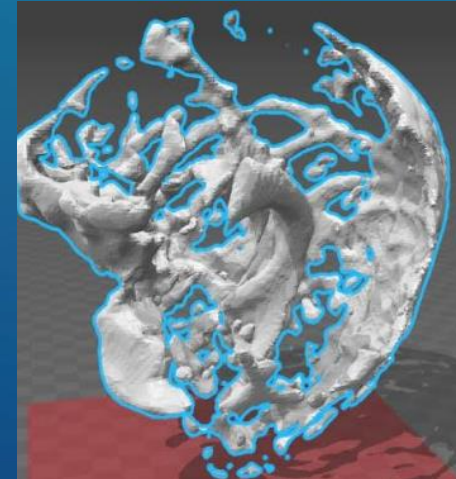
Electrodes



Bone



Gray  
Matter



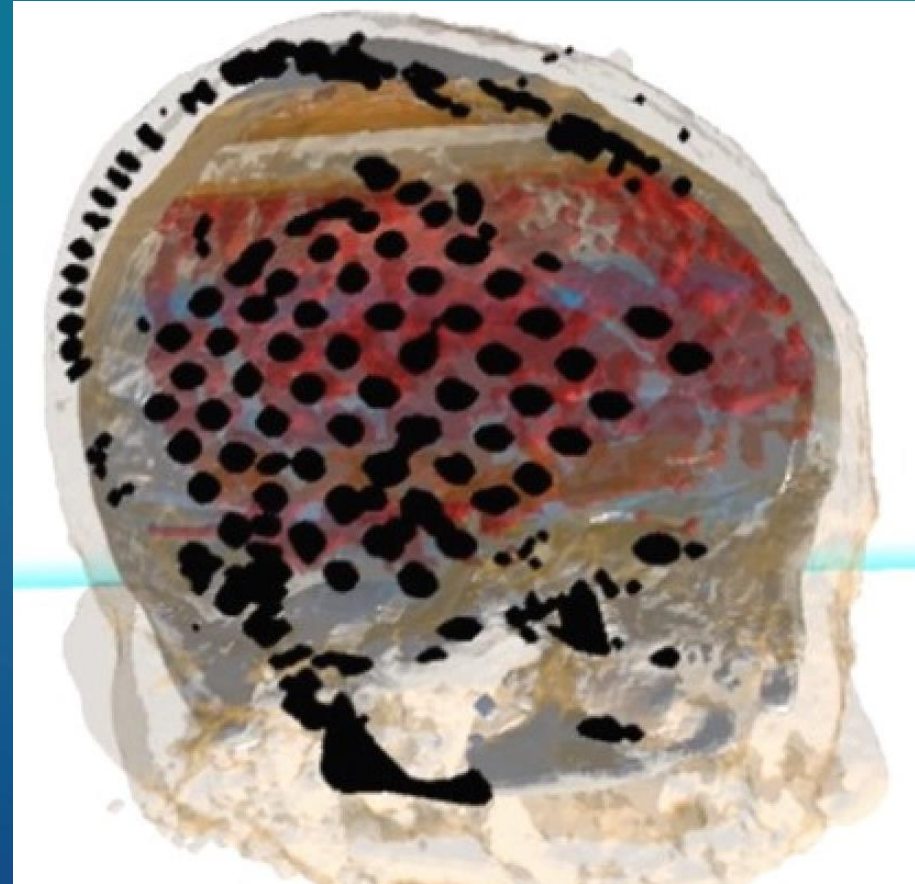
CSP



# POST PROCESSING

- Voxel Erosion
- Smoothing Filters
- Save at STL files

Refine 3D structures of the brain as well as remove extra voxels



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Next Steps



# Virtual Reality

- Instantaneous Visualization
- In-depth manipulation
- Bring attention to detail
- Promote Collaboration



Neurosurgeon using VR to visualize a patient's brain

HTC Vive: The VR device used to run + test this software



# VR Features

- Zoom
- Grip/Move/Rotate
- Toggle Different Layers
- Adjust Transparency
- Slice/Cut

## 3D model of a real human's brain displayed in Virtual Reality



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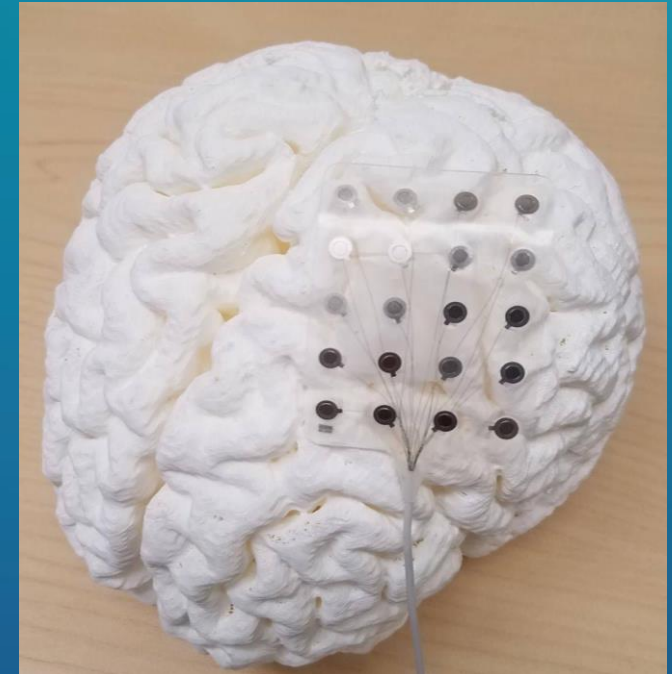
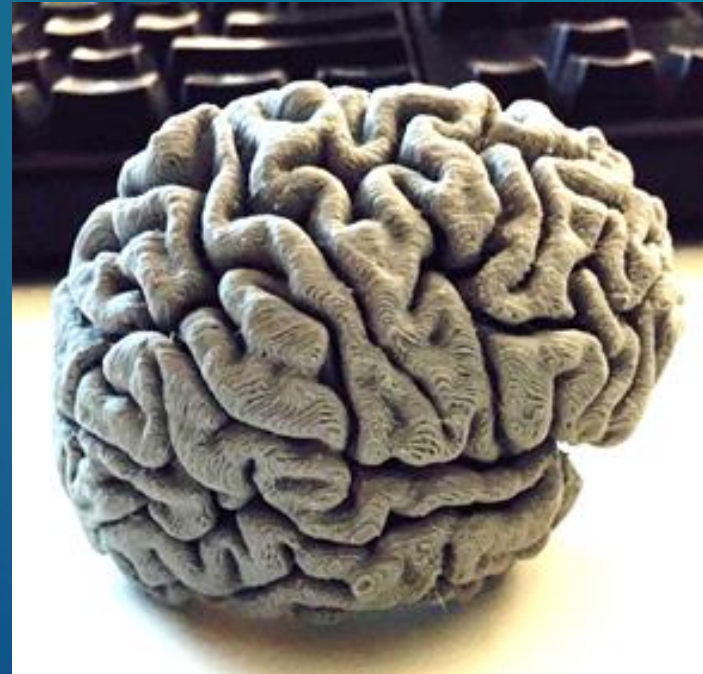


Next Steps

# 3D Printing

- Life-size Physical Model
- Communication tool  
Educate patients + families
- Use of different materials

A brain model, 3D printed with PLA, can be utilized to plan brain surgeries





# Outcomes

- Deployed Prototypes at local hospitals
- Found changes in surgical strategy were made after using this tool



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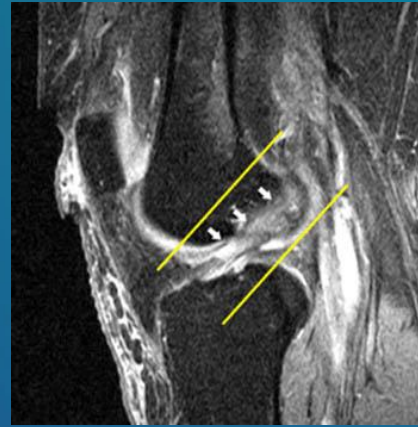


Next Steps

# Beyond the Brain



Discovery of  
Kidney Stones



Diagnosing ACL tears  
+ Monitoring recovery



Determining Plaque Build-up in  
the heart



# Beyond Surgical Planning



Patient Education



Physician Education



Patient Monitoring

# THANK YOU!

Please remember to  
complete the session  
survey in the mobile app.

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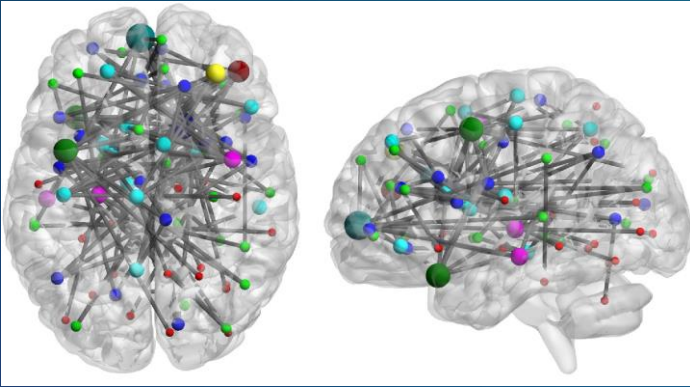
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CELEBRATION



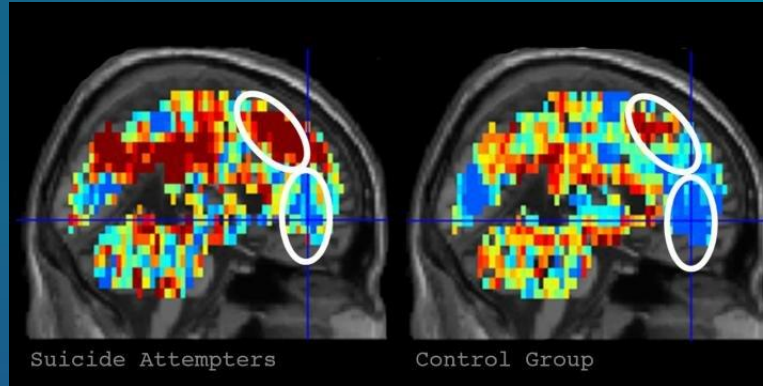
#GHC19

# **Backup p Slides**

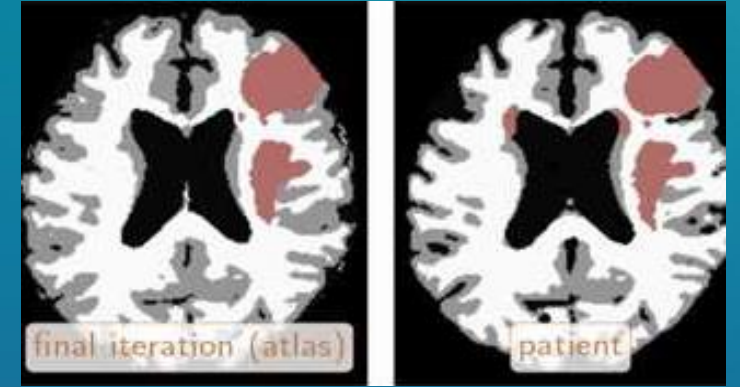
# Artificial Intelligence



Statistical machine learning to identify traumatic brain injury (TBI) from structural disconnections of white matter network



Brain Imaging Technology Uses Machine Learning to Identify Suicidal Thoughts



Ability to Identify Brain Tumors Using Machine Learning

# Co-registration



The spatial alignment of a series of images, either from intra-subject or inter-subject image volumes.

## Different Types

- Landmark based: identify cerebrum borders, map to Talairach template
- Volume based: maximize overlapping voxels
- Surface based: use cortical surface instead of full brain volume

## Tool Boxes

- SPM: Statistical Parametric Mapping
- AFNI: Analysis of Functional NeuroImages



# Real Time AR/VR



# VR in Telemedicine + Surgical Robotics

