



UNIVERSITÀ DEGLI STUDI
DI TRENTO



Machine Learning for Tract Segmentation in dMRI Data

Bao Nguyen

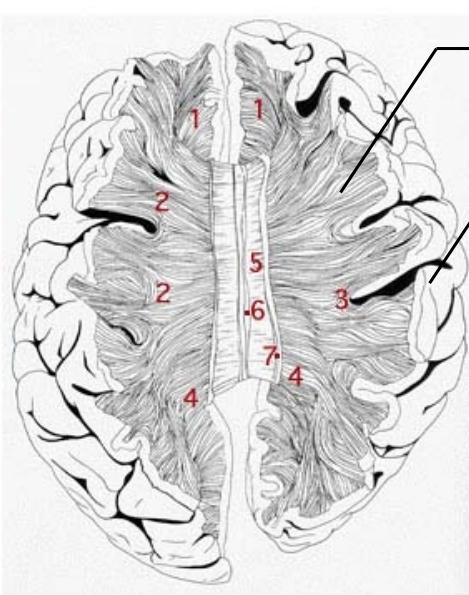
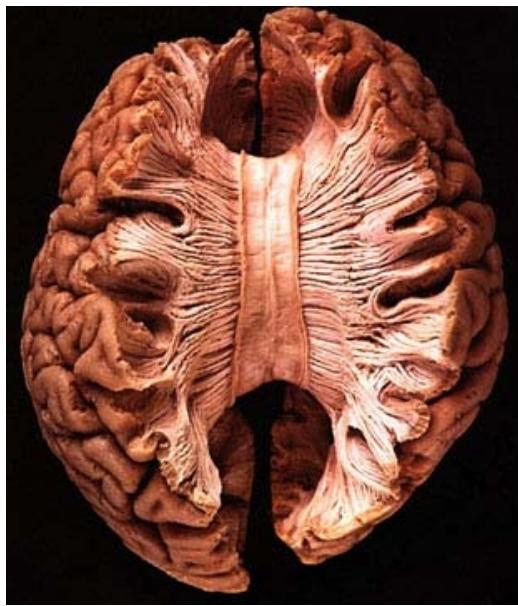
NeuroInformatics Laboratory (NILab)

Trento, January 2013

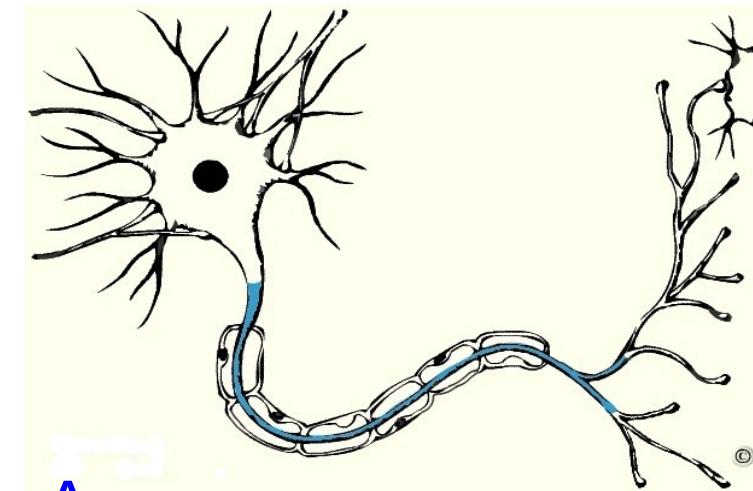
Contents

- Introduction
- State of the art (SoA)
- Problem statement
- Preliminary results
- Conclusion and Future works

White matter



white matter
grey matter



Axon

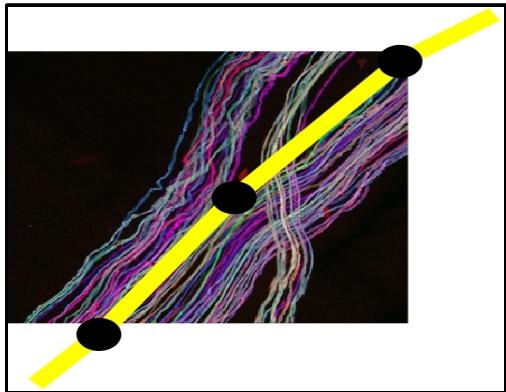
- Number: $\sim 10^{12}$ axons
- Size: $\sim 2\text{-}20\mu\text{m}$

dMRI technique

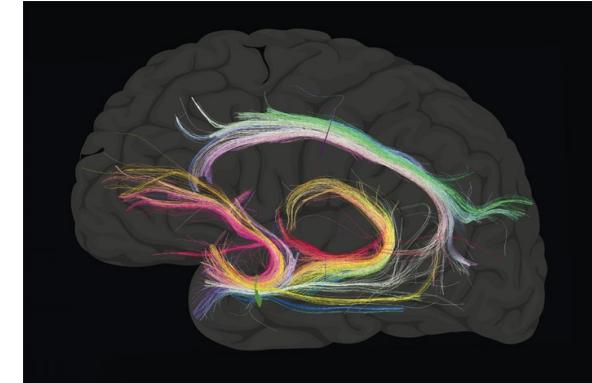
(diffusion Magnetic Resonance Imaging)
in vivo (not invasive)

Denis Le Bihan, 1984

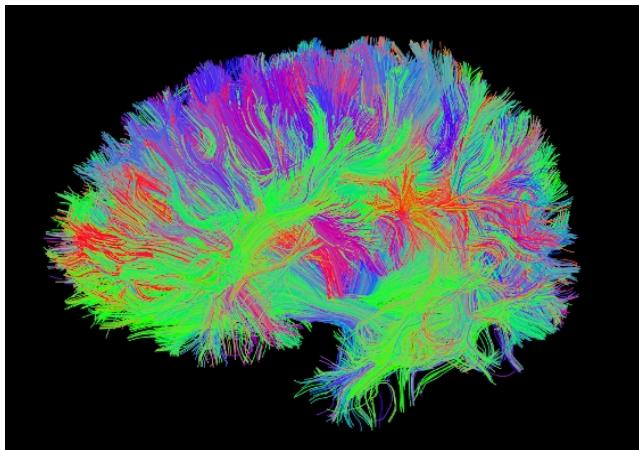
Streamline & Tractography



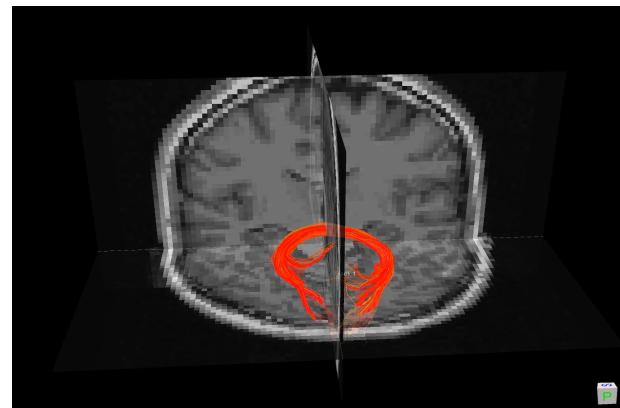
Streamline: a polyline representing thousands of axons.
(fiber, track)



Bundle: a group of '*close*' streamlines

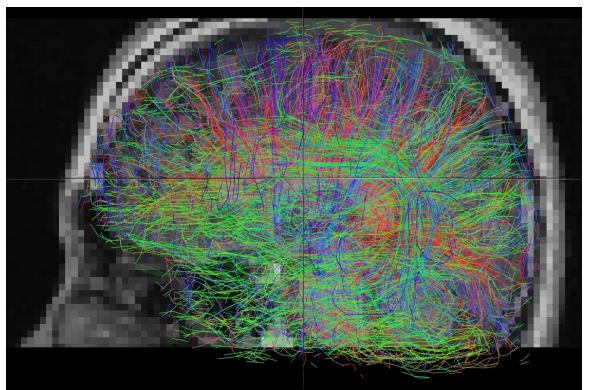


Tractography: presentation of whole brain by streamlines.



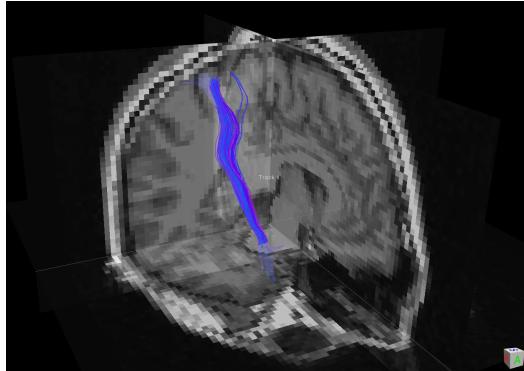
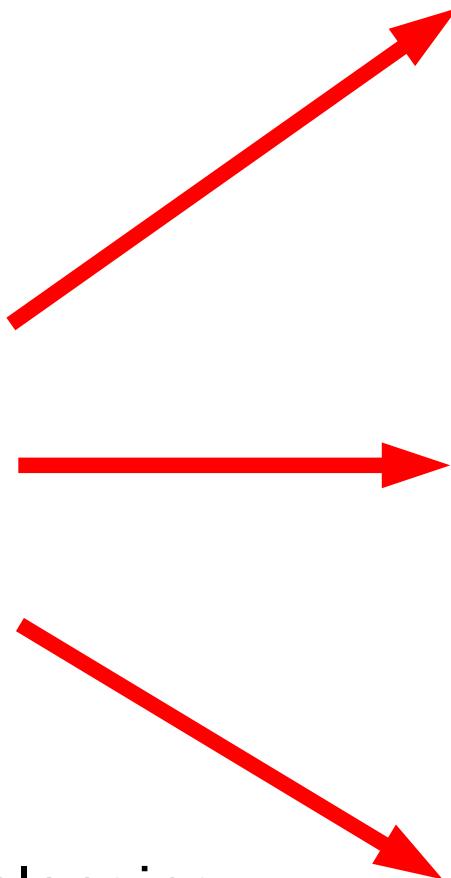
Tract: the real anatomical group of axons.

Tractography Segmentation

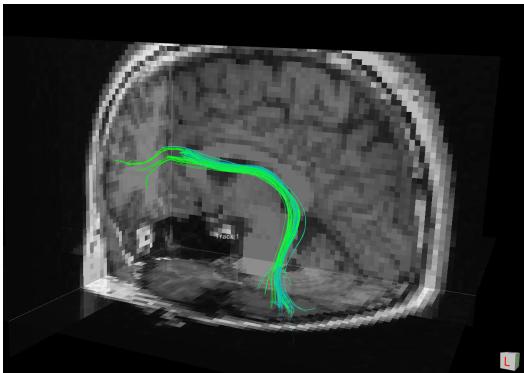


Tractography

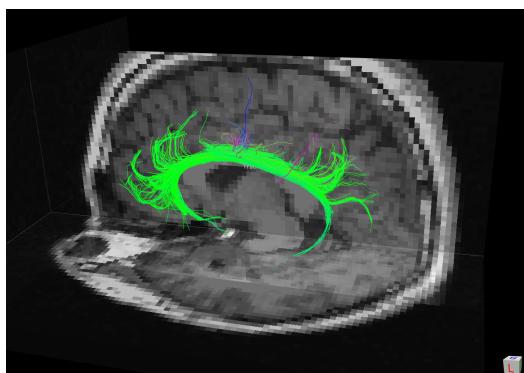
Group streamlines belonging
to a **common anatomical area**
into **one segmentation**



Corticospinal Tract (CST)

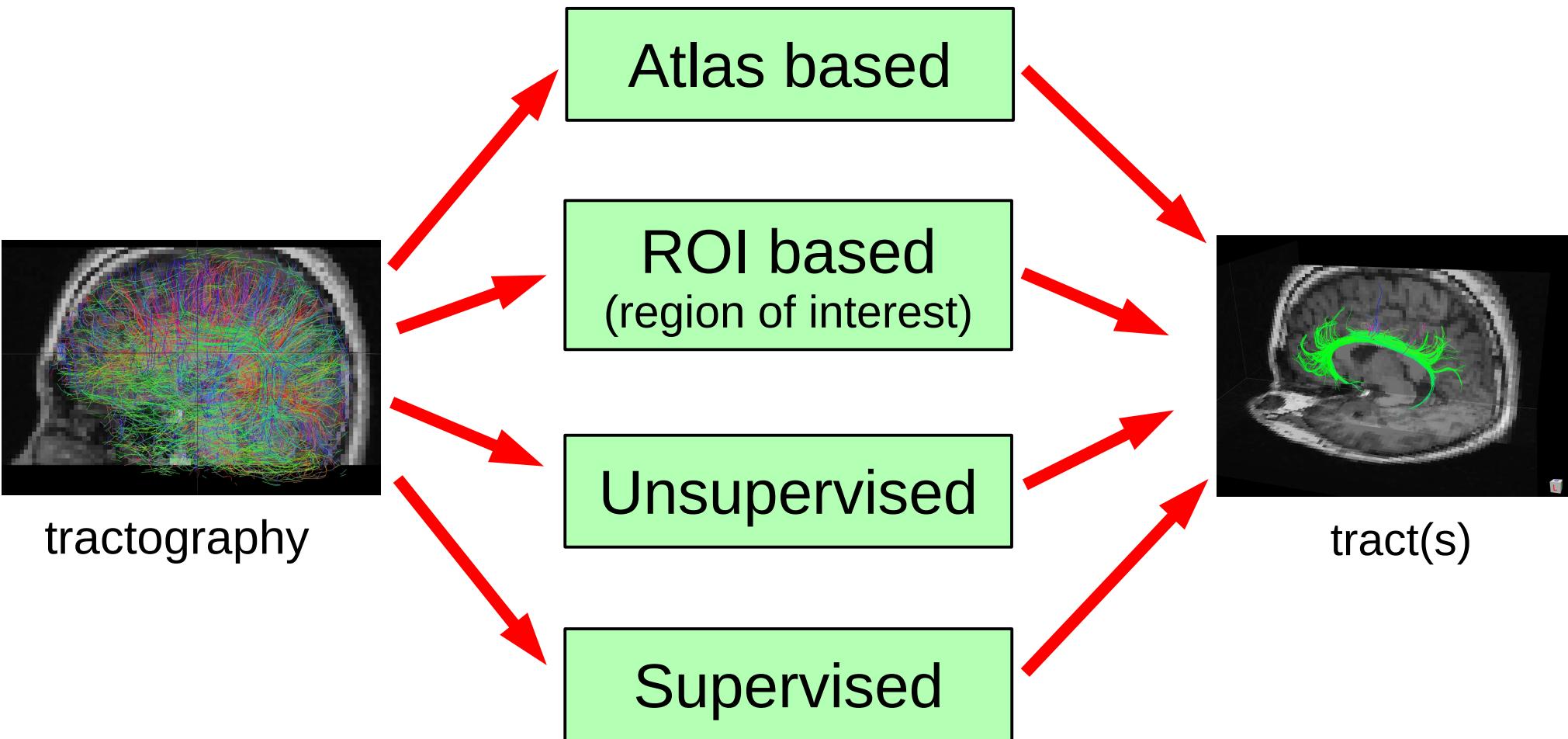


Arcuate Fasciculus Tract (AFT)

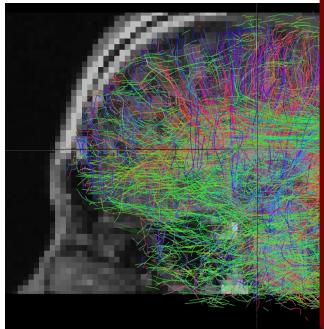
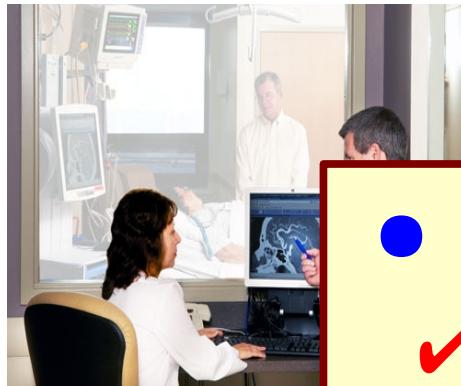


Cingulum Tract (CGT)

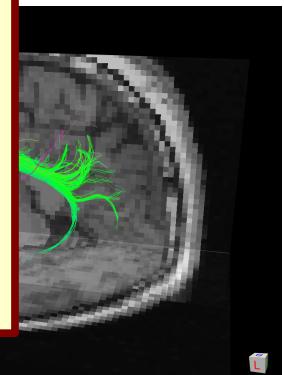
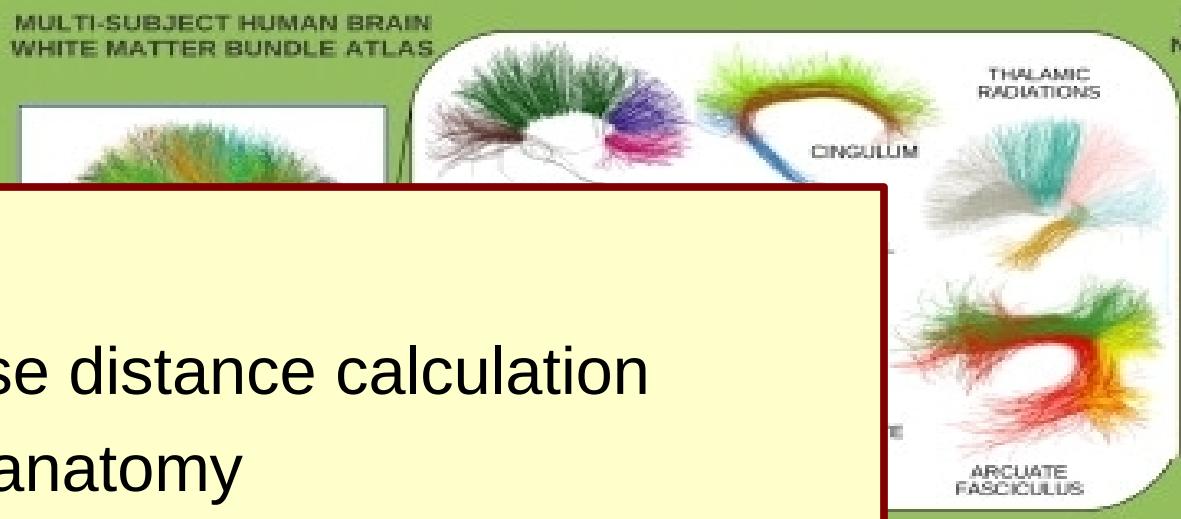
Tract segmentation approaches



Atlas based Tract Segmentation



tractography



tract(s)

ROI based *Tract Segmentation*

- Pros

- ✓ No pairwise distance calculate
- ✓ Relate to anatomy (indirect)
- ✓ Target tract

- Cons

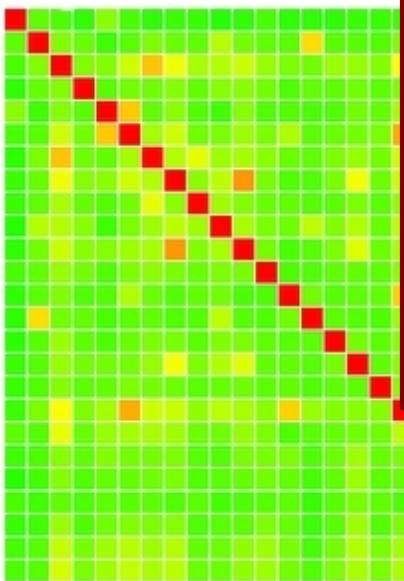
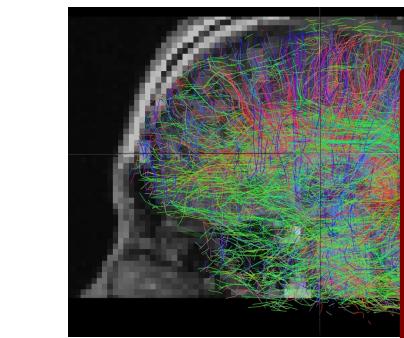
- ✓ Prior knowledge of trajectory
- ✓ Work on well characterized tracts
- ✓ Co-registration

tractography

ROIs
are
drawn

tract

Unsupervised Tract Segmentation



similarity matrix

k-means, etc.)

Streamlines distance

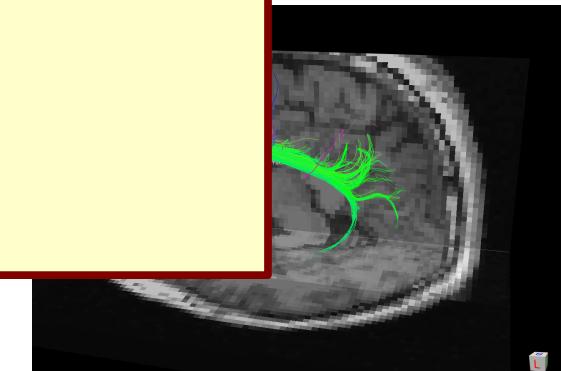
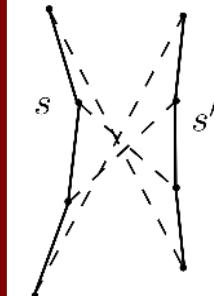
- Pros

- ✓ No co-registration

- Cons

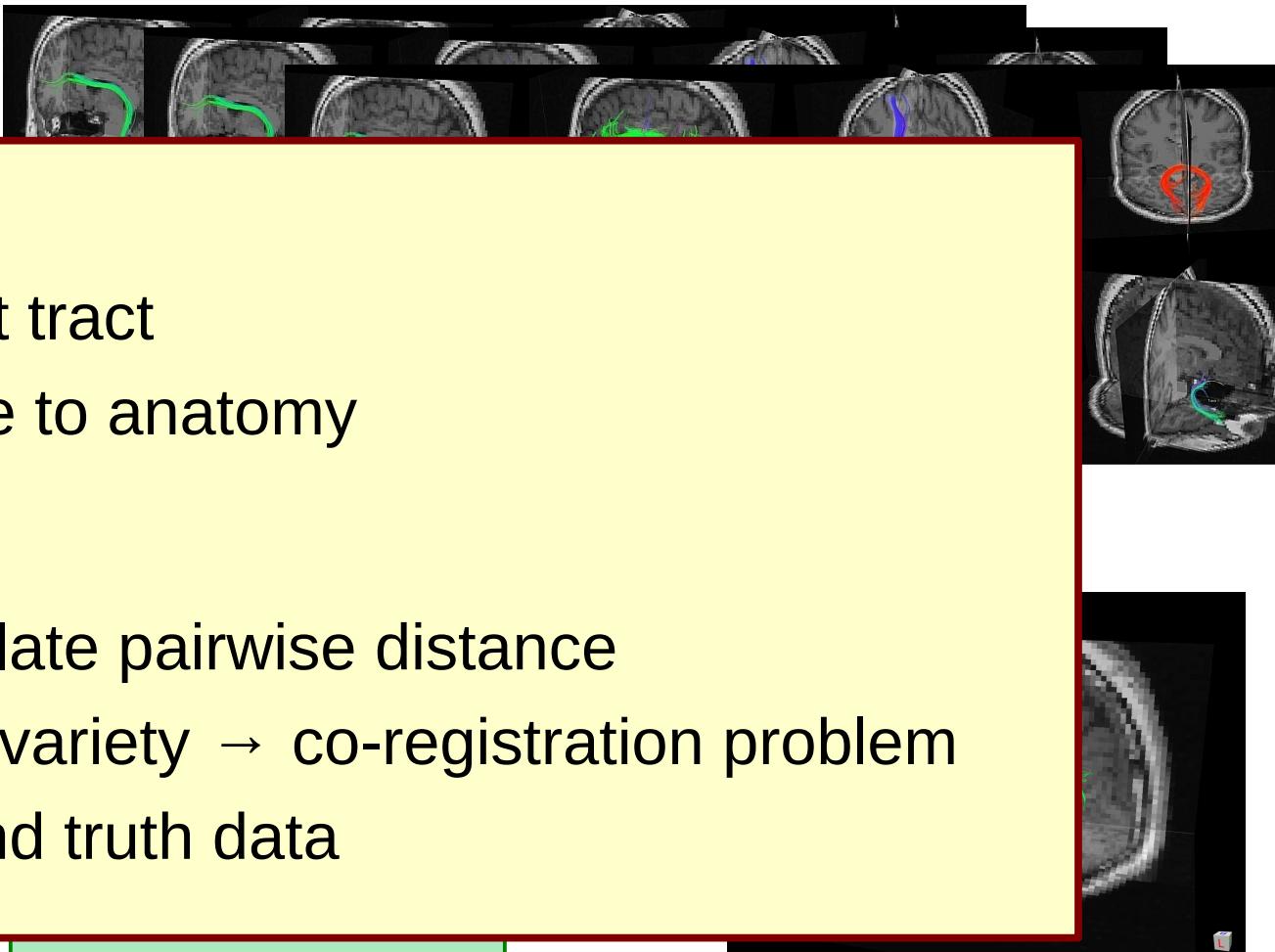
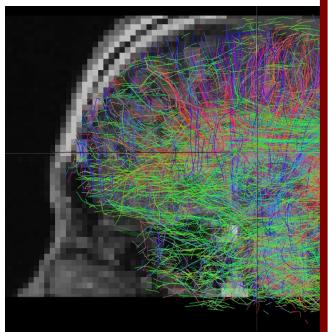
- ✓ Calculate pairwise distance
- ✓ Whole brain not target tract
- ✓ Not relate to anatomy
- ✓ Number of cluster

$$d_{\text{flipped}}(s, s')$$



tract(s)

Supervised Tract Segmentation



- Pros

- ✓ Target tract
- ✓ Relate to anatomy

- Cons

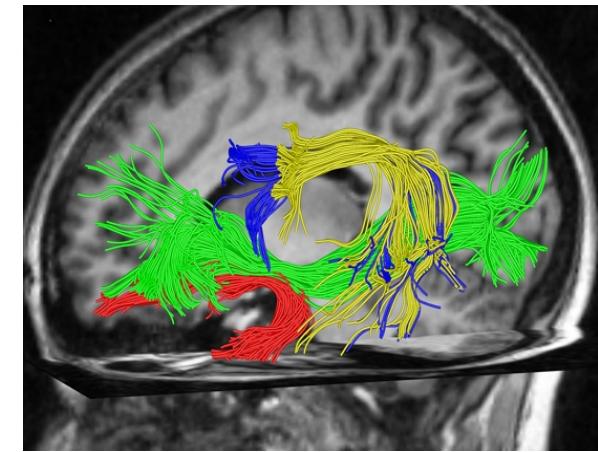
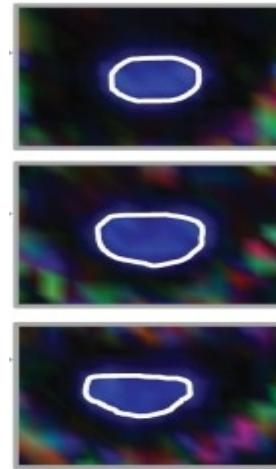
- ✓ Calculate pairwise distance
- ✓ Brain variety → co-registration problem
- ✓ Ground truth data

tractography

tract(s)

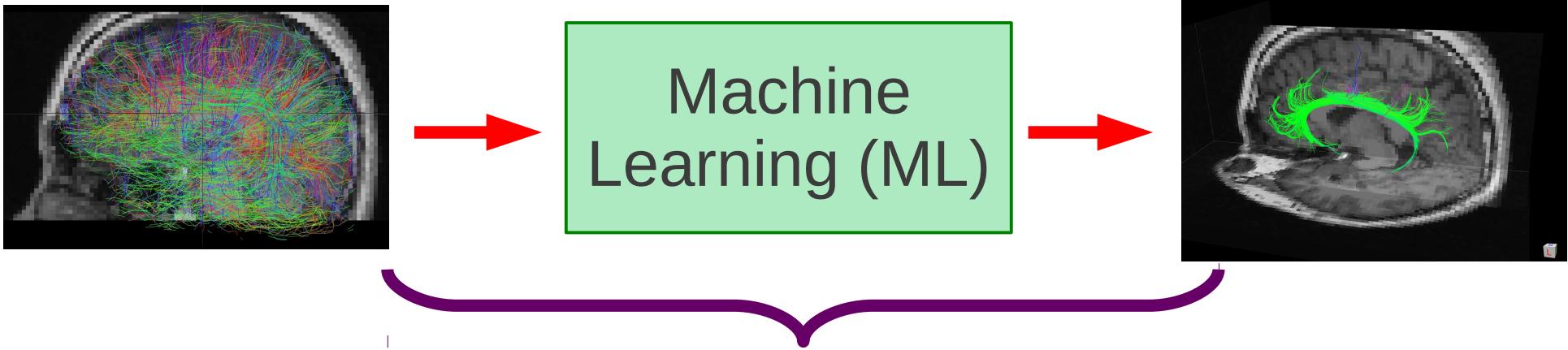
New strategy: BOI - Bundle of Interest

Focus **directly** on which **bundle** (cluster of streamlines) that user wants to **work on**



Approach	ROI	BOI
Anatomy related	Yes (indirect)	Yes
Visualization	No	Yes
Interaction	No	Yes
No prior knowledge of trajectory	No	Yes

Goals

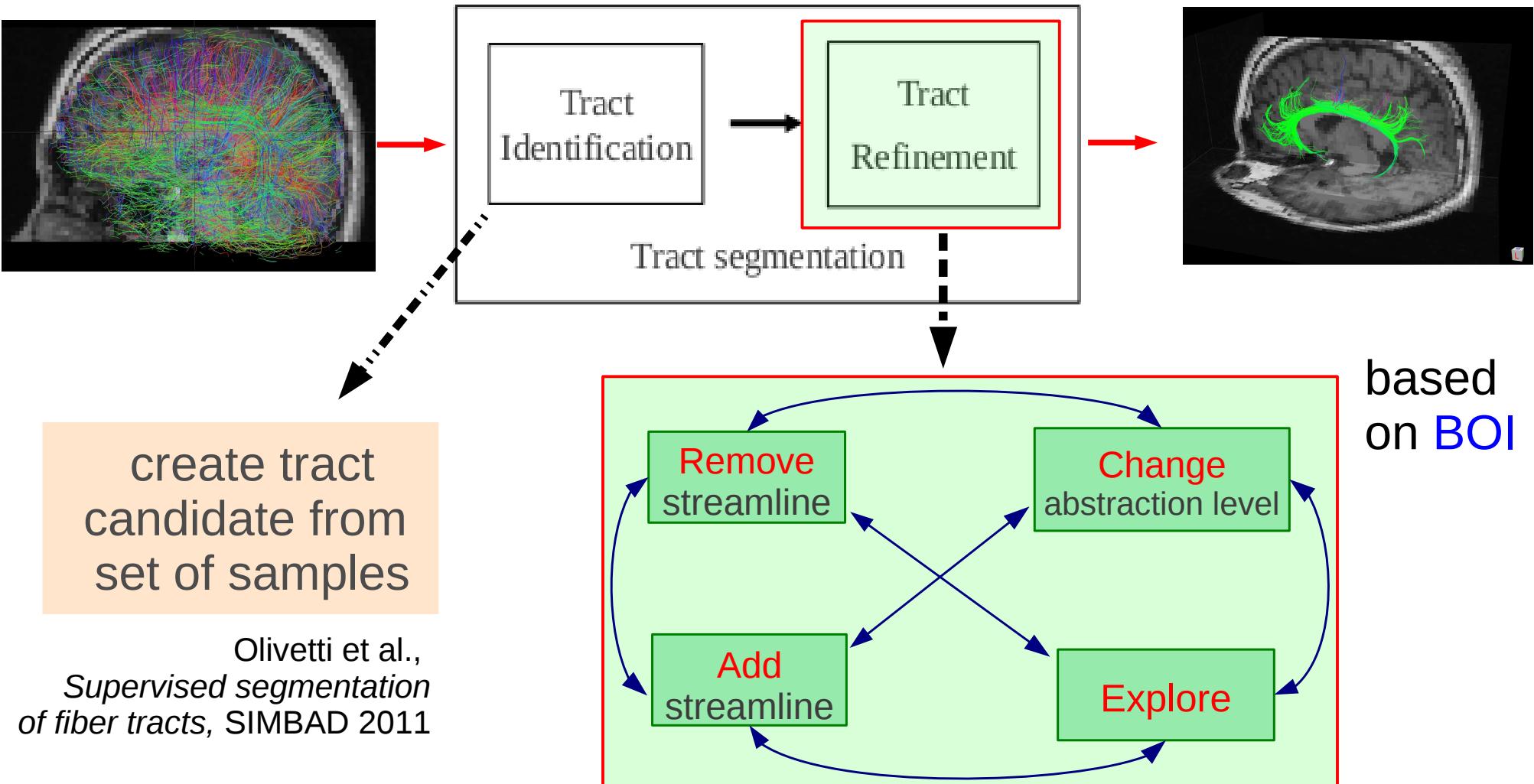


Improve the **support** of ML for tract segmentation

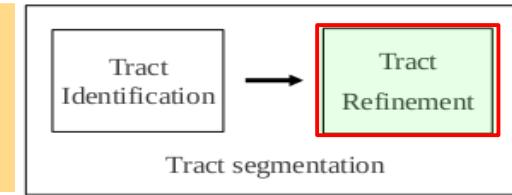
Challenges

- **overcome** disadvantages of Atlas, ROI
- **combine** both un-supervised and supervised
- **design** an **effective method** for tract segmentation

Process design: *interactive segmentation*



Interactive tract refinement



Demo of Spaghetti

Problem statement

- Given a set of N objects $\mathcal{X} = \{x_1, \dots, x_N\}$
- Traditional partitional clustering: find **one partition** of \mathcal{X}

$$C = \{C_1, \dots, C_K\} \text{ with } K \leq N$$

where C_i is a cluster of \mathcal{X} : $C_i = \{x_1^i, \dots, x_j^i\}, j \leq N$

- i $C_i \neq \emptyset, i \in [1, \dots, K]$
- ii $\bigcup_{i=1}^K C_i = \mathcal{X}$
- iii $C_i \cap C_j = \emptyset, i, j \in [1, \dots, K], i \neq j$

Interactive clustering

- Our approach: find **a set of m partitions** of \mathcal{X}

$$\mathcal{P} = \{ P_1, \dots, P_m \}$$

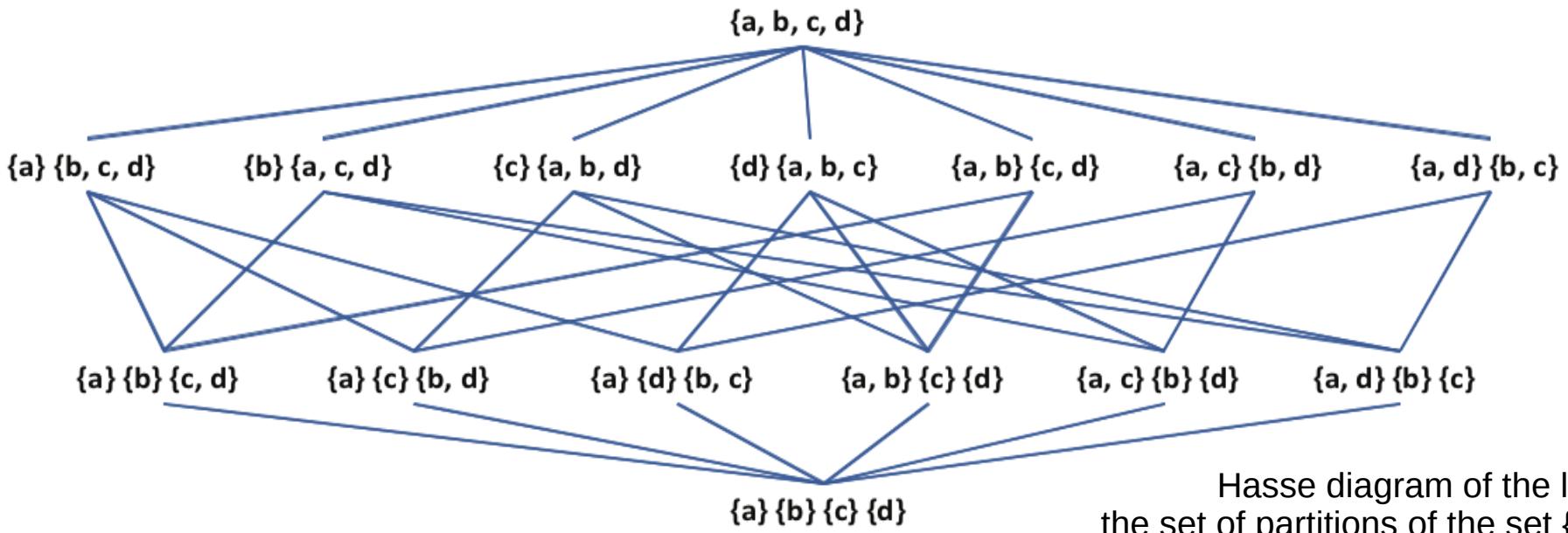
where P_i is one partition of \mathcal{X} : $P_i = \{C_1^i, \dots, C_{d_i}^i\}$

- i P_i represents the *ith abstraction level* of \mathcal{X}
- ii constraint γ : $\forall i \in [1, m-1], P_i \preceq P_{i+1}$ ("nested in")
- Denoted as a triple $\langle \mathcal{X}, \mathcal{P}, \gamma \rangle$

Interactive clustering: partial order relation

- \mathcal{P}_χ : set of all possible partitions of χ
- Over \mathcal{P}_χ , a partial order relation \preceq ("nested in")

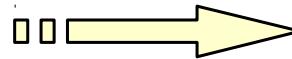
$$\forall P_a, P_b \in \mathcal{P}_\chi, P_a \preceq P_b \leftrightarrow \forall C_i^b \in P_b, \exists C_{i_1}^a, \dots, C_{i_k}^a \in P_a : C_i^b = \bigcup_{t=1}^k C_{i_t}^a$$



Interactive clustering: update partitions

- Remove an old object $x_{r.m} \in \mathcal{X}$

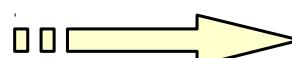
$$\mathcal{X} = \{x_1, \dots, x_N\}$$



$$\mathcal{X}' = \mathcal{X} \setminus \{x_{r.m}\}$$

- Add a new object x_{add}

$$\mathcal{X} = \{x_1, \dots, x_N\}$$



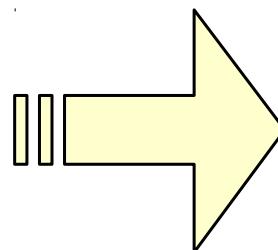
$$\mathcal{X}' = \mathcal{X} \cup \{x_{add}\}$$

$$\mathcal{P} = \{P_1, \dots, P_m\}$$

$$\langle \mathcal{X}, \mathcal{P}, \gamma \rangle, \gamma: P_i \preceq P_{i+1}$$

 $i \in [1, m-1]$

current partitions



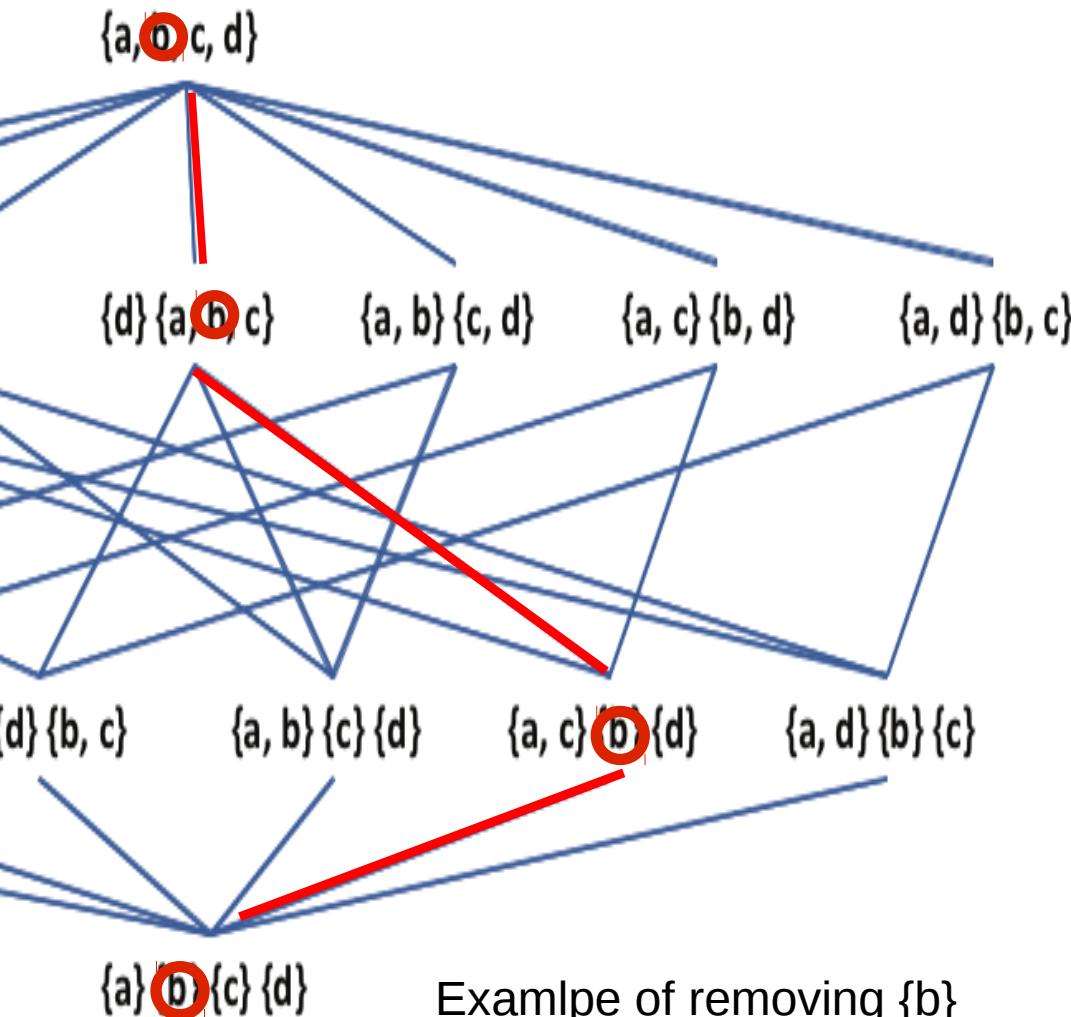
$$\mathcal{P}' = \{P'_1, \dots, P'_{m'}\}$$

$$\langle \mathcal{X}', \mathcal{P}', \gamma' \rangle, \gamma': P'_i \preceq P'_{i+1}$$

 $i \in [1, m'-1]$

updating partitions

Interactive clustering: *remove object*



Removing object $x_{r.m}$ from all partitions

$\forall P_i, i \in [1, \dots, m],$

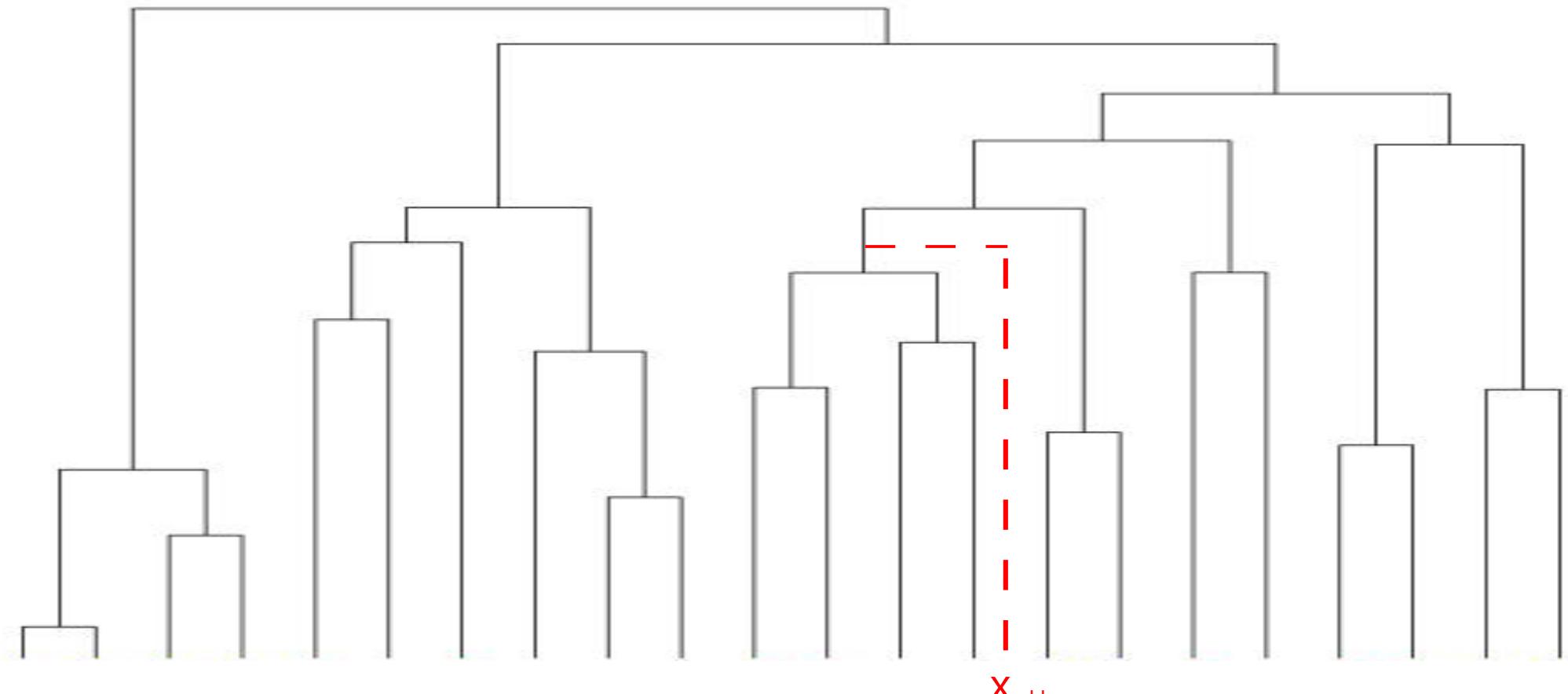
$\forall j \in [1, \dots, d_i]:$

if $x_{r.m} \in C_j^i$ then

$C_j^i = C_j^i \setminus \{x_{r.m}\},$

if $C_j^i = \emptyset, P_i = P_i \setminus \{C_j^i\}$

Interactive clustering: *add object*



incremental clustering

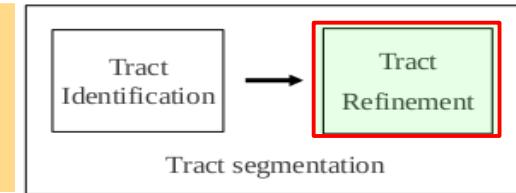
Incremental clustering – SoA

- Douglas H. Fisher, *Knowledge Acquisition Via Incremental Conceptual Clustering*, Machine Learning, Vol. 2, 1987
- Arnaud Ribert, Abdel Ennaji, Yves Lecourtier, *An Incremental Hierarchical Clustering*, Vision Interface, 1999
- Dwi H. Widjantoro & Thomas R. Ioerger, John Chen, *An incremental approach to building a cluster hierarchy*, IEEE ICDM, 2002
- Chien Y. Chen, Shien C. Hwang, Yen J. Oyang, *An incremental hierarchical data clustering algorithm based on gravity theory*, PAKDD 2002
- Samer Nassar, Jörg Sander, Corrine Cheng, *Incremental and effective data summarization for dynamic hierarchical clustering*, ACM SIGMOD MD 2004
- Ibai Gurrutxaga, Olatz Arbelaitz, José I. Martín, et al., *SIHC: A Stable Incremental Hierarchical Clustering Algorithm*, ICEIS 2009.
- M. Srinivas, C. K. Mohan, *Efficient clustering approach using incremental and hierarchical clustering methods*, IJCNN, 2010
- Dingding Wang, Tao Li, *Document update summarization using incremental hierarchical clustering*, CIKM 2010

Incremental clustering: critical factors

- Complexity
- Stability
 - Not dramatically change the current dendrogram
 - User can assimilate the changes
- Data summarization

Interactive clustering – close solutions



- Widyantoro et al., 2002

An incremental approach to building a cluster hierarchy

$O(N \log N)$ v.s build MST ($O(N^2 \log N)$)
+ not stable structure

- Nassar et al., 2004

Incremental and effective data summarization for dynamic hierarchical clustering

$O(m * N)$ v.s data summarization

- Gurrutxaga et al., 2009

SIHC: A Stable Incremental Hierarchical Clustering Algorithm

Keep a stable structure v.s $O(N^2 \log N)$

Preliminary Results

● (method) Dissimilarity representation

E. Olivetti, **T. B. Nguyen**, E. Garyfallidis,

The Approximation of the Dissimilarity Projection,

Pattern Recognition in NeuroImaging, PRNI 2012.



The Approximation of the Dissimilarity Projection

Emanuele Olivetti¹, Member, IEEE, Than Bao Nguyen², and Efthymios Garyfallidis³
¹Neuroinformatics Laboratory, NIA Lab, Brain Health Foundation, Texas, USA
²Department of Computing, University of Hertfordshire, Hatfield, UK
³BMC, Cognition and Brain Sciences Unit, University of Cambridge, UK

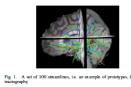


Fig. 1. A tract of one neuron, an example of a pathway, from a full tractography solution (projection only) for classification tasks.

data after its interpretation in a dissimilarity space. The analysis of tractographies can derive from the analysis of the dissimilarity space, such as finding an appropriate representation space for the data, or finding a dissimilarity measure that is able to correctly represent the inherent nature of the tractography because it has to handle different types of data (e.g., points, lines, regions, etc.), different number of points and for this reason they need to be directly compared. In this paper we propose a novel technique called *dissimilarity projection* to address the issue of the vectorial representation of tractographies. This technique is based on the Euclidean embedding technique defined by a mapping from a dissimilarity space to a new dissimilarity space in the vector of distances from prototypes. We propose a dissimilarity measure based on the dissimilarity between two points in a tractography space. The proposed measure is able to characterize the data as an tractography data. Additionally, we propose a practical policy that provides both a dissimilarity measure and a dissimilarity representation space for tractographies. The proposed measure is able to correctly represent the inherent nature of tractographies, and the proposed dissimilarity representation space is able to correctly represent the inherent nature of tractographies.

I. INTRODUCTION

Dissimilarity tractography algorithms [1] can reconstruct white matter tracts from diffusion Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI) data sets. A number of tractography algorithms have been proposed to overcome the limitations of the original tractography algorithms [2].

Dissimilarity tractography can be used to find the shortest path between two points in a tractography space. This technique requires the data to be in a vectorial space, which is not the case for tractographies. The proposed technique is able to correctly represent the inherent nature of tractographies, and the proposed dissimilarity representation space is able to correctly represent the inherent nature of tractographies.

The dissimilarity representation is a Euclidean embedding technique that is able to correctly represent the inherent nature of tractographies, and then by applying our new dissimilarity representation space, we can correctly represent the prototypes. This representation [1]-[3] is usually presented as a dissimilarity matrix, where each row and column corresponds to a single transformation in the sense that some information is lost in the transformation. This representation is able to correctly represent the inherent nature of tractographies, and this is the best of our knowledge this is, i.e. the degree of approximation is the highest among all the other representations.

We provide a practical example of this technique for tractographies. The proposed technique is able to correctly represent the inherent nature of tractographies, and this is the best of our knowledge this is, i.e. the degree of approximation is the highest among all the other representations.

II. MOTIVATION

In the following we present a concise formal description of the dissimilarity projection together with a series of experiments that demonstrate the effectiveness of the proposed technique for tractographies. The proposed technique is able to correctly represent the inherent nature of tractographies, and this is the best of our knowledge this is, i.e. the degree of approximation is the highest among all the other representations.

A. The Dissimilarity Projection

Let X be the space of objects of interest, e.g. tractographies, and \mathcal{P} be a probability distribution over X . Let $d : X \times X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^+$ be a dissimilarity function between objects of X . The dissimilarity projection is a mapping that takes an object $x \in X$ and a point $p \in \mathcal{P}$ and returns a dissimilarity representation of x with respect to p . The dissimilarity representation is a vector of size $|X|$ that is computed as follows:

Let $\{x_1, \dots, x_n\}$ be the set of objects of X .

Let $\{p_1, \dots, p_m\}$ be the set of prototypes.

Let $\{d_{ij}\}_{i,j=1}^{n,m}$ be the dissimilarity matrix between x_i and p_j .

Let $\{p_i\}_{i=1}^m$ be the set of prototypes.

Let $\{x_i\}_{i=1}^n$ be the set of objects of X .

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Let $\{x_i\}_{i=1}^n</math$

Conclusion

- An effective method for tract segmentation:
tract candidate (supervised) and tract refinement (clustering)
- An interactive visualization tool for tract segmentation
- ALS case study

Future works

- Implement the modified HAC for tractography
- Revise the solution for 'adding object' to partitions
- Integrate tract candidate (supervised) into Spaghetti

Credits

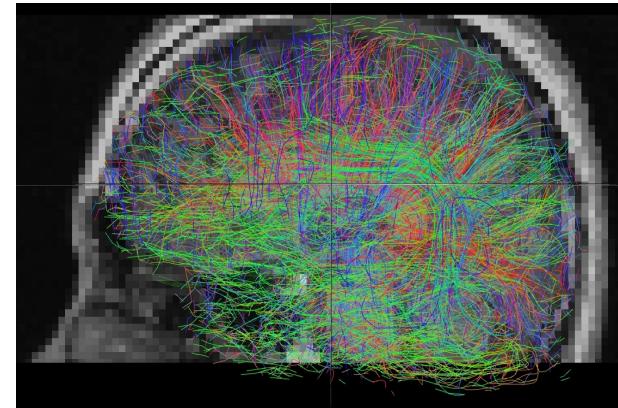
- **Nivedita Agarwal**, *S.Chiara Trento Hospital, Italy;
University of Utah, USA*
- **Eleftherios Garyfallidis**, *University of Cambridge, UK;
University of Sherbrooke, Canada*
- **Emanuele Olivetti**, *Fondazione Bruno Kessler, Italy*
- **Paolo Avesani**, *Fondazione Bruno Kessler, Italy*
- **Luigi Cattaneo**, *CiMeC, University of Trento, Italy*
- **Francesca Maule**, *CiMeC, University of Trento, Italy*

Thank you!

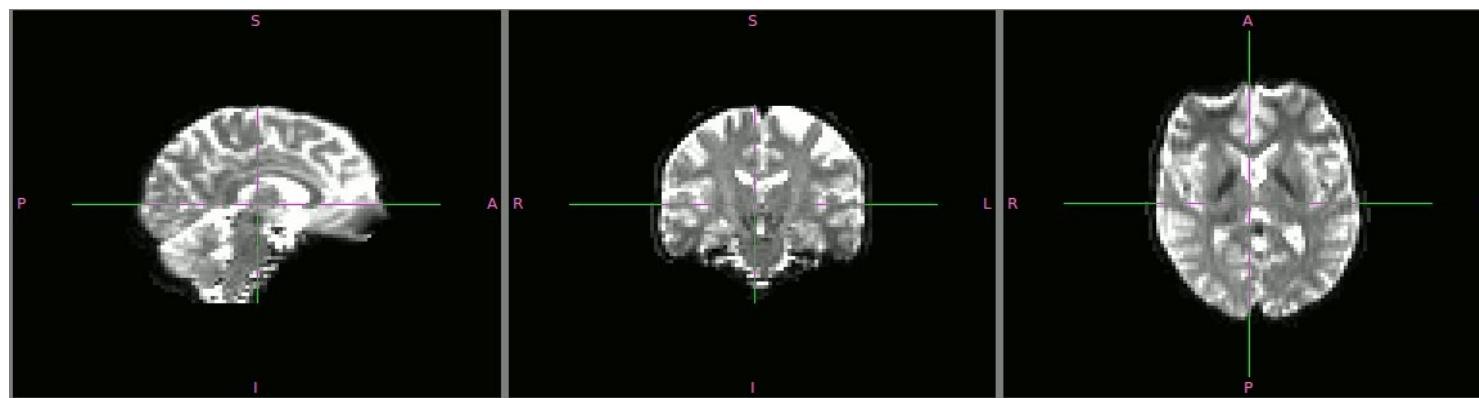


dMRI technique

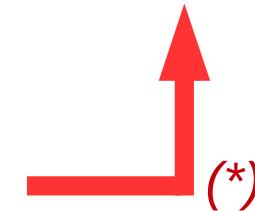
(diffusion Magnetic Resonance Imaging)
in vivo (not invasive)
Denis Le Bihan, 1984



Tractography in 3D

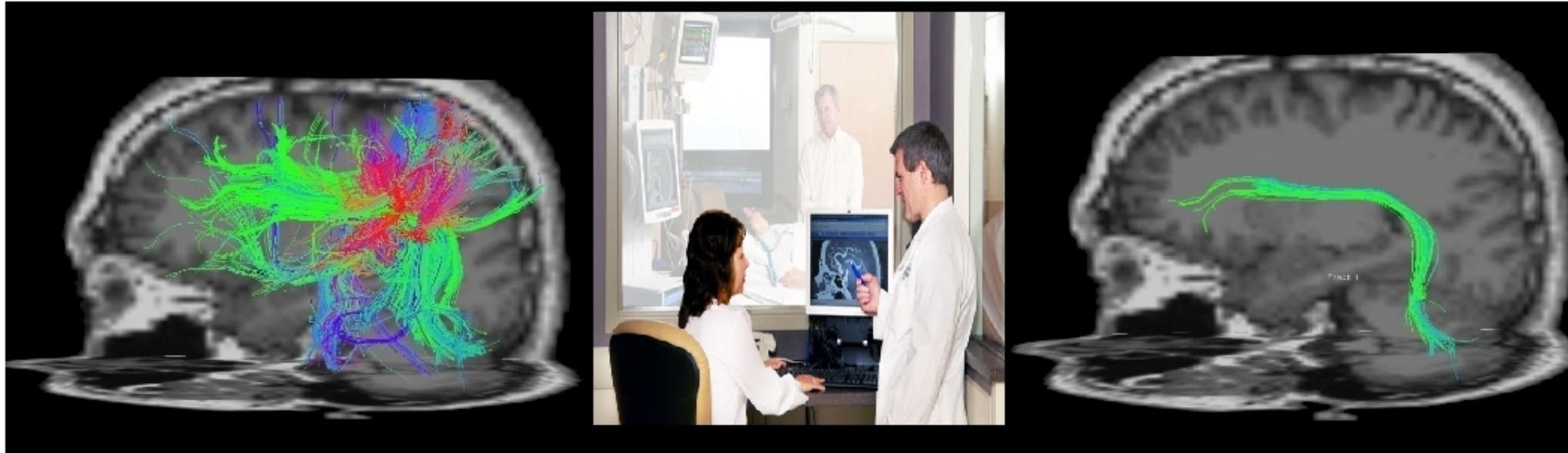


MRI images in 3D



*Garyfallidis et.
al. 2012
(Towards an
accurate brain
tractography)*

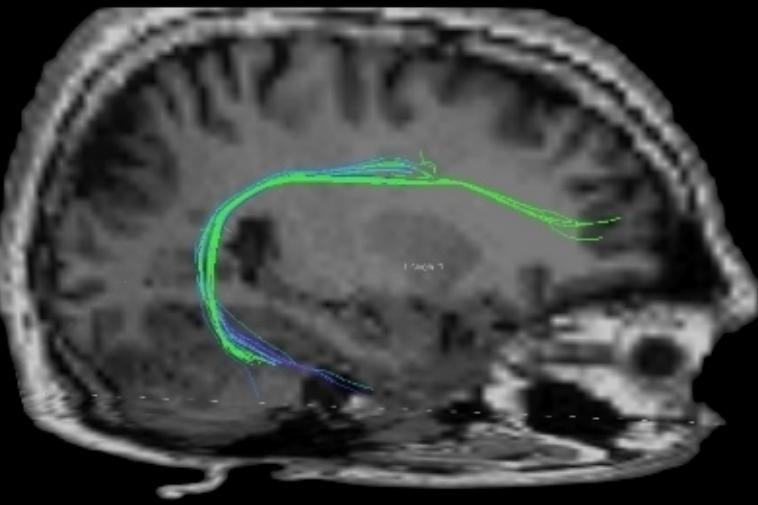
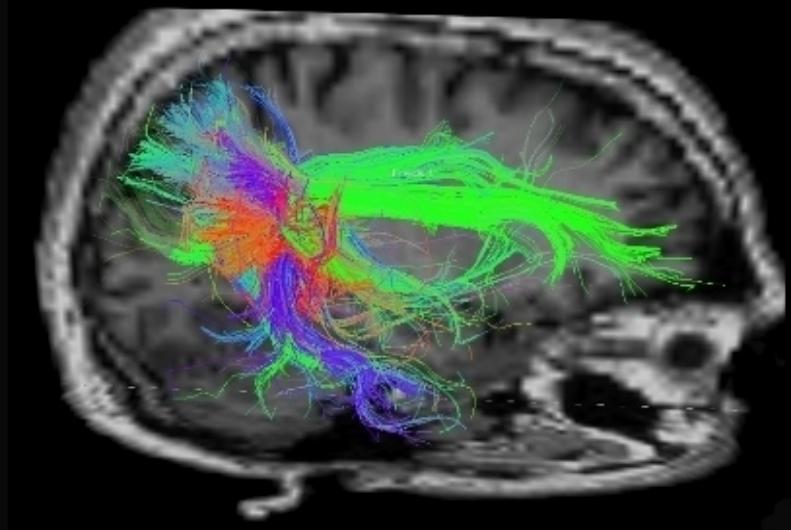
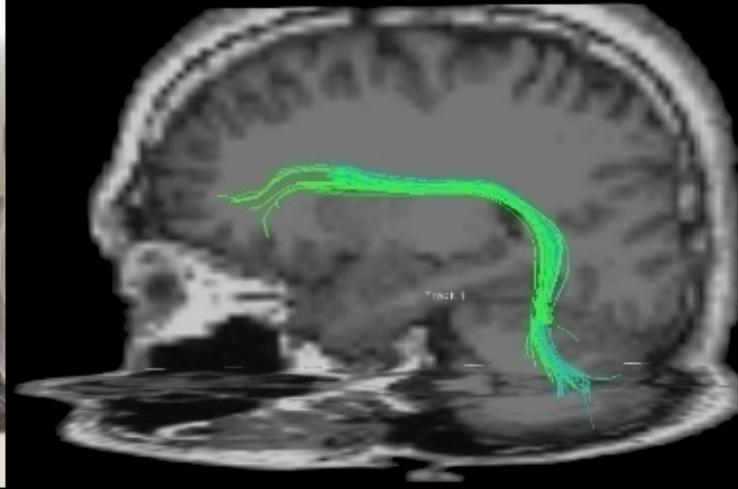
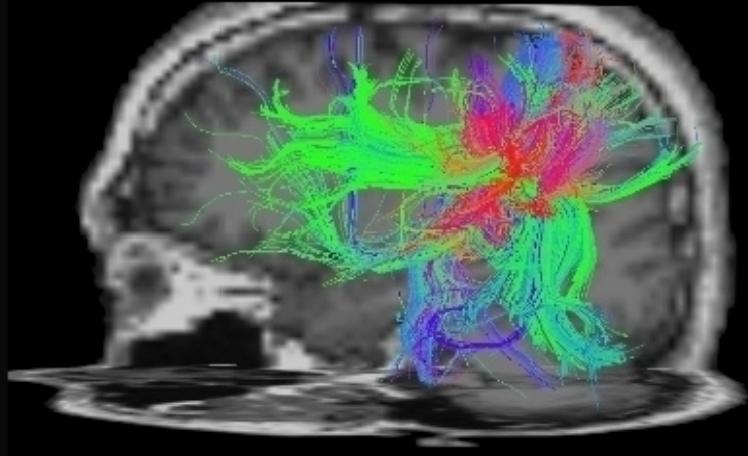
Tract Segmentation: Human Expert



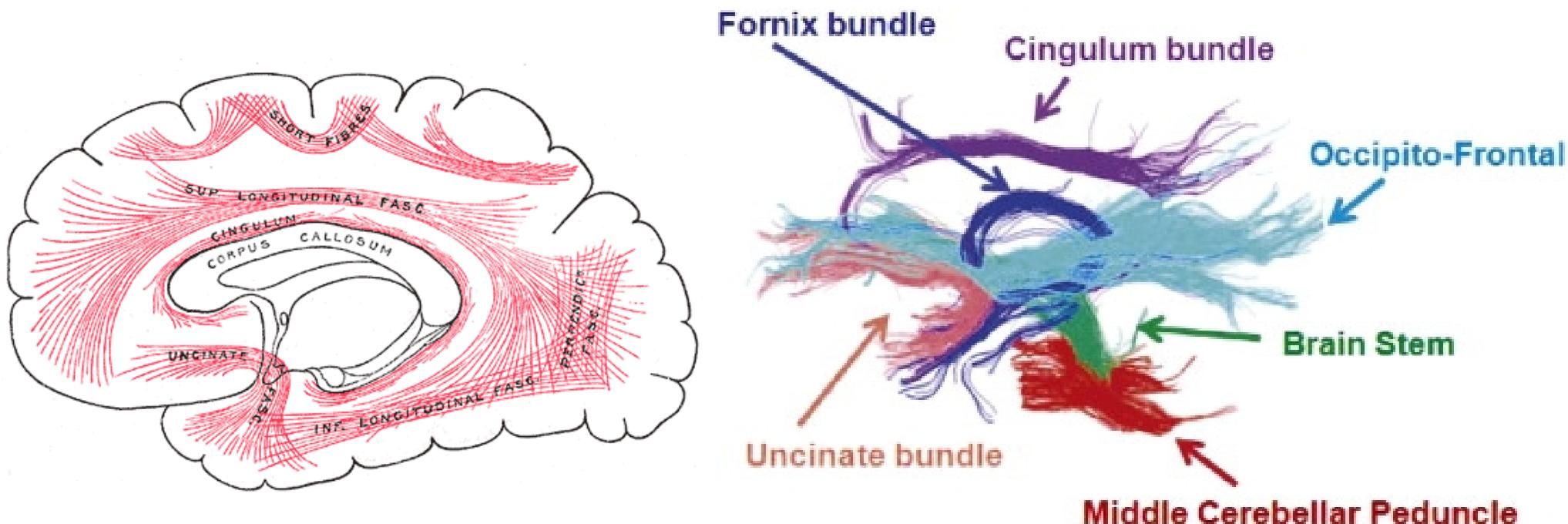
large amount of streamlines

anatomical variability
among subjects

segmentation
difficult and lengthy



Tractography Segmentation



To group streamlines belonging to a common anatomical area into one segmentation

Survey of tractography segmentation methods

Approach	Target tract	Anatomy related	No co-registration	No pairwise distance	Visualization/Interaction
Atlas	No	Yes	No	Yes	No
ROI	Yes (indirect)	Yes (indirect)	No	Yes	No
Unsupervised	No	No	Yes	No (costly)	No
Supervised	Yes	Yes (indirect)	No	Yes	No



pros



con

Comparison

Approach	Target tract	Related anatomy	No co-registration	No pairwise distance	Visualization \Interaction
Atlas	No	Yes	No	Yes	No
ROI	Yes (indirect)	Yes (indirect)	No	Yes	No
Unsupervised	No	No	Yes	No (costly)	No
Supervised	Yes	Yes (indirect)	No	Yes	No
Ours	Yes	Yes	No(*)	Yes	Yes

Data representation

Most of learning algorithms assume objects to be in an Euclidean feature space

Issue: streamlines $s = \{x_1, \dots, x_{n_s}\}$, where $x \in \mathbb{R}^3$

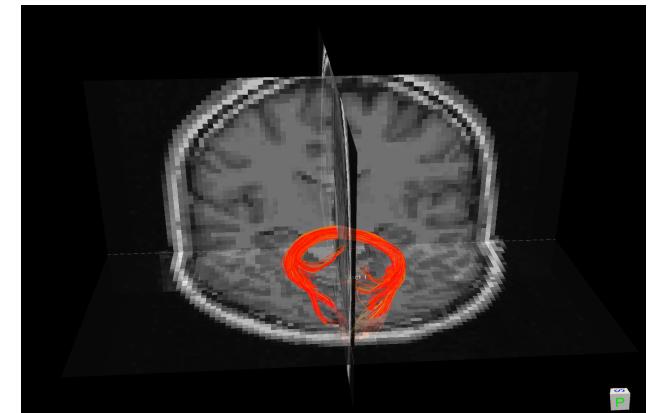
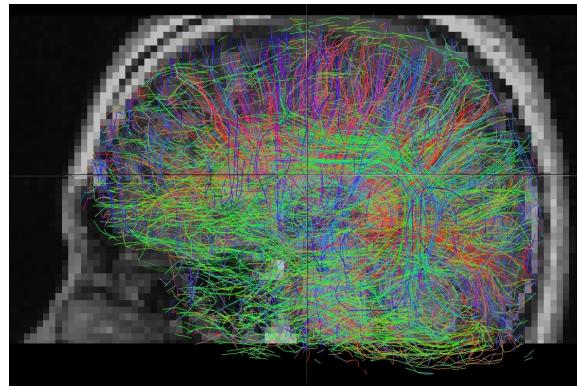
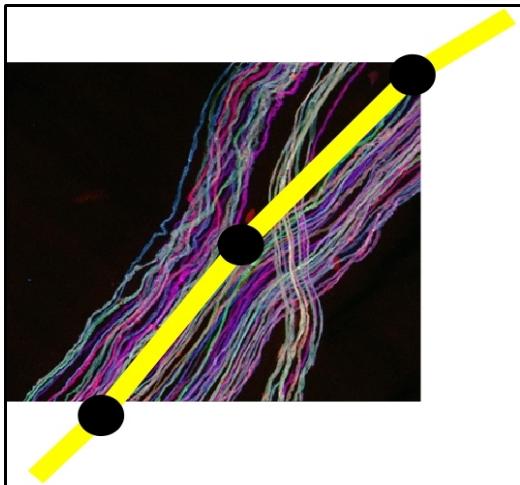
- The number of points is not the same
- Lengths are different

Find a representation ϕ of streamline $\phi: \mathcal{T} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^d$

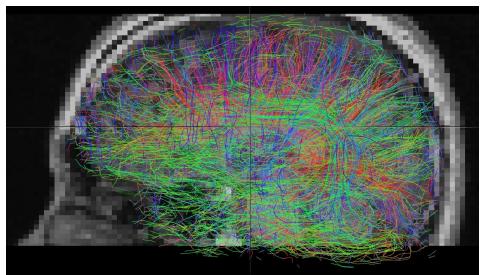
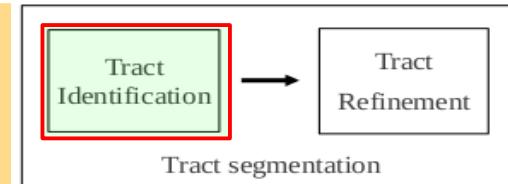
minimize lossy: $\phi = \operatorname{argmin} L(\phi^{-1}(s))$

Notations

- **Streamline**: a polyline $s = \{x_1, \dots, x_{ns}\}$, where $x \in \mathbb{R}^3$
- **Tractography**: a set of n streamlines $\mathcal{T} = \{s_1, \dots, s_n\}$
- **Target tract**: $T_{target} \subset \mathcal{T}$

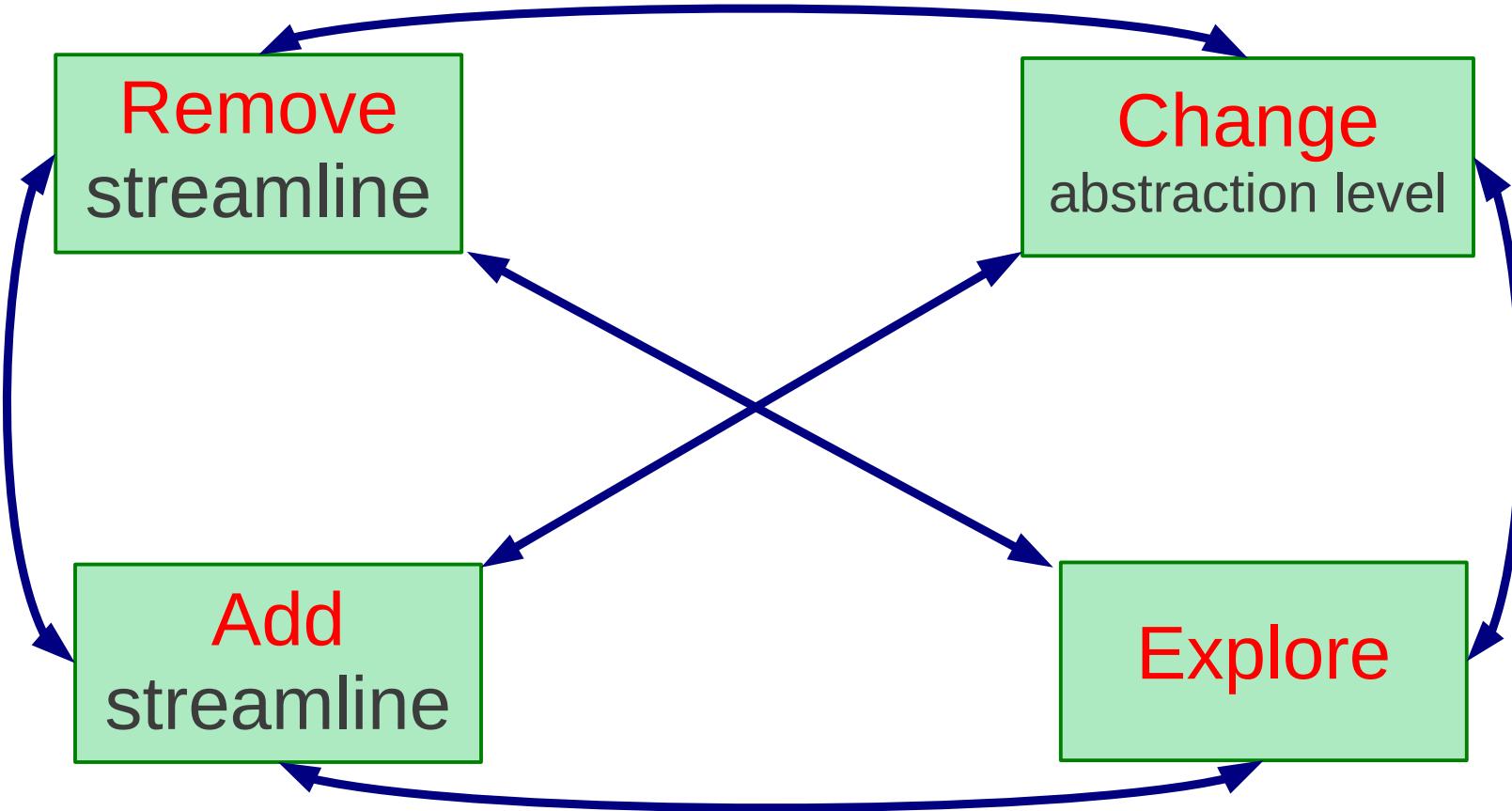
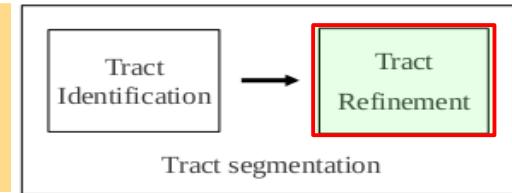


Tract identification

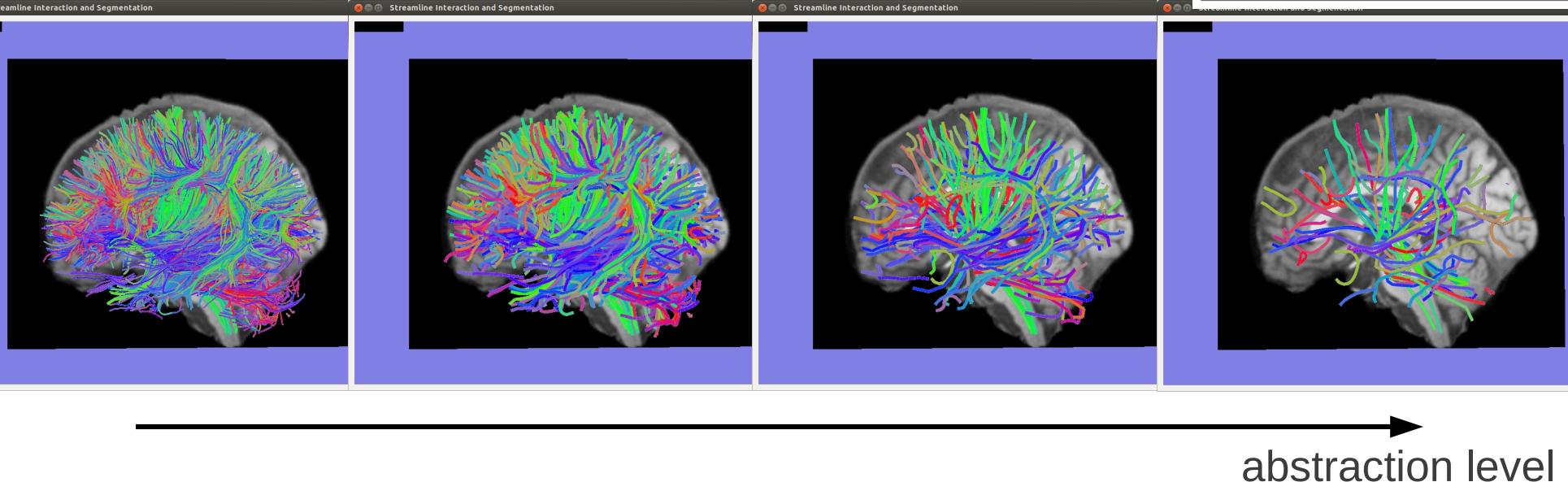
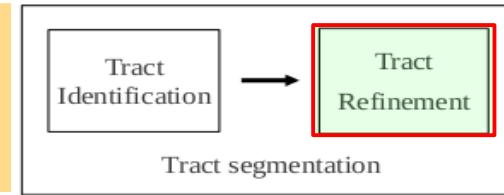


- Given a class-labeled sample $E = \{(s_1, y_1), \dots, (s_N, y_N)\}$, with $y_i = 0$ if $s_i \in T_{\text{target}}$; $y_i = 1$ otherwise.
- Learn **classifier f** from E by minimizing the loss function L : $f = \operatorname{argmin} L(f(s), y)$
- **Tract candidate:** $T_{\text{candidate}} = \{ s_i \mid f(s_i) = 1, \forall s_i \in \mathcal{T} \}$

Interactive tract refinement



Interactive tract refinement



large
amount of
streamlines

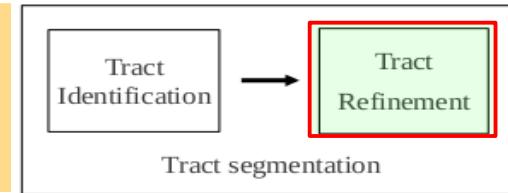


difficult to
interpret and
interact



Cluster in
multiple-level
of abstraction

Tractography clustering



- Given a set of N streamlines $\mathcal{T} = \{s_1, \dots, s_N\}$
- Traditional approaches: find **one partition** of \mathcal{T}

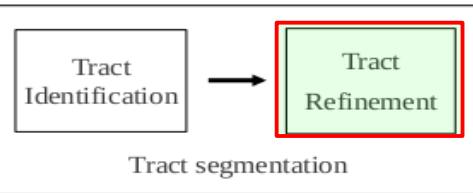
$$C = \{C_1, \dots, C_K\} \text{ with } K \leq N$$

with C_i is a cluster of \mathcal{T} : $C_i = \{s_1^i, \dots, s_j^i\}, j \leq N$

i $C_i \neq \emptyset, i = 1, \dots, K$

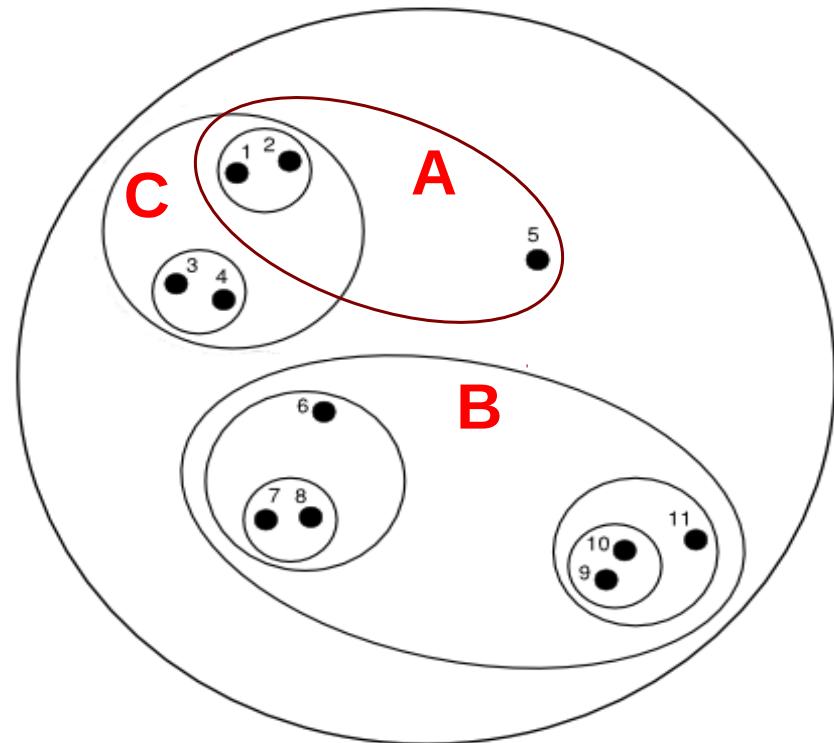
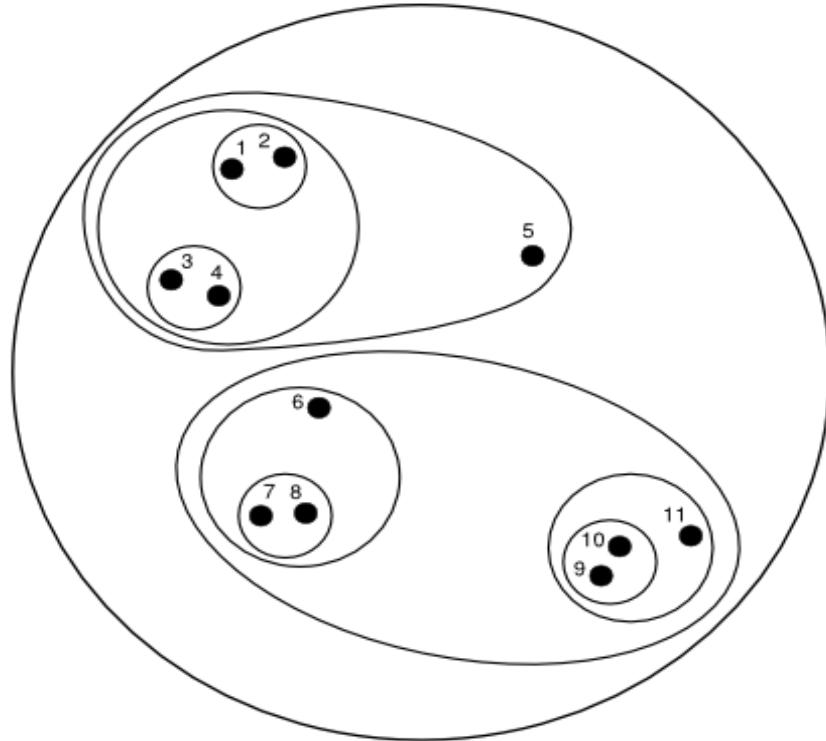
ii $\bigcup_{i=1}^K C_i = \mathcal{T}$

Interactive tractography clustering

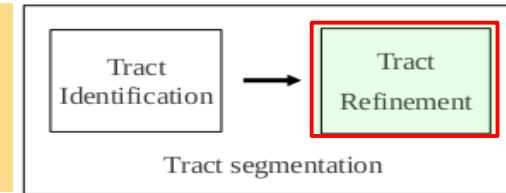


$$\forall P_i, P_j, i > j, (C_k^j \subseteq C_l^i) \vee (C_k^j \cap C_l^i = \emptyset)$$

$i \in [1, \dots, d_i]$,
 $k \in [1, \dots, d_j]$

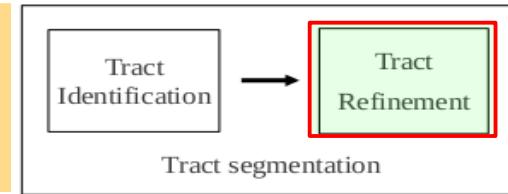


Neighbor checking



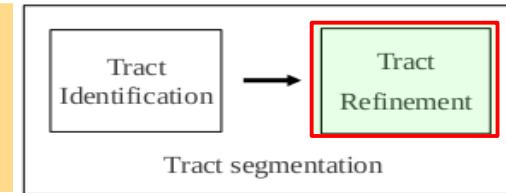
- Given a distance measure $d(s_a, s_b)$ on whole tractography T_B
$$neighbor(T, \theta) = \{s \mid d(s, s_t) \leq \theta, \forall s_t \in T, s \in T_B, s \neq s_t\}$$
- Add streamline $s_a \in neighbor(T, \theta)$ to T ???
 - The current viewing partition is P_i
 - $C_{close}(s_a, P_i)$ is the cluster in P_i closest to s_a :
$$C_{close}(s_a, P_i) = \operatorname{argmin} (d(s_a, C_k^i)), \forall C_k^i \in P_i$$
 - $d_{min}(P_i)$ is the min distance between two clusters of P_i
$$d_{min}(P_i) = \operatorname{argmin} (d(C_k^i, C_l^i)), \forall C_k^i, C_l^i \in P_i, k \neq l$$

Neighbor checking – add streamline



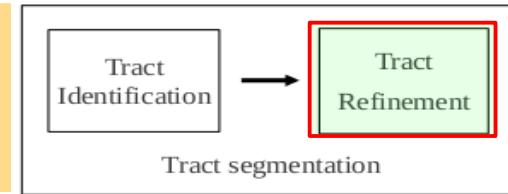
- Case 1: $d(s_a, C_{\text{close}}(s_a, P_i)) > d_{\min}(P_i)$
 - s_a becomes a new cluster: $P'_i = P_i \cup \{s_a\}$
 - $\langle \mathcal{P}', \mathcal{T}', \gamma_2 \rangle$ where γ_2 is the constraint as:
$$\gamma_2 : \forall j \in [1, \dots, i], \exists C'^j_k \in P'_j : C'^j_k = \{s_a\}$$
- Case 2: $d(s_a, C_{\text{close}}(s_a, P_i)) \leq d_{\min}(P_i)$
 - s_a is merged into $C_{\text{close}}(s_a, P_i)$: $C_{\text{close}}(s_a, P_i) = C_{\text{close}}(s_a, P_i) \cup \{s_a\}$
 - $\langle \mathcal{P}', \mathcal{T}', \gamma_3 \rangle$ where γ_3 is the constraint as:
$$\gamma_3 : \forall j \in [i, \dots, m], \exists C'^j_k \in P'_j : (C_{\text{close}}(s_a, P_i) \cup \{s_a\}) \subseteq C'^j_k$$

Neighbor checking



- Given a distance measure $d(s_a, s_b)$ on whole tractography T_B
$$neighbor(T, \theta) = \{s \mid d(s, s_t) \leq \theta, \forall s_t \in T, s \in T_B, s \neq s_t\}$$
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 - $d_{min}(P_i)$ is the min distance between two clusters of P_i
$$d_{min}(P_i) = \operatorname{argmin} (d(C_k^i, C_l^i)), \forall C_k^i, C_l^i \in P_i, k \neq l$$

Neighbor checking – add streamline



- Case 1: $d(s_a, C_{\text{close}}(s_a, P_i)) > d_{\min}(P_i)$
 - s_a becomes a new cluster: $P'_i = P_i \cup \{s_a\}$
 - $\langle \mathcal{P}', \mathcal{T}', \gamma_2 \rangle$ where γ_2 is the constraint as:
$$\gamma_2 : \forall j \in [1, \dots, i], \exists C'^j_k \in P'_j : C'^j_k = \{s_a\}$$
- Case 2: $d(s_a, C_{\text{close}}(s_a, P_i)) \leq d_{\min}(P_i)$
 - s_a is merged into $C_{\text{close}}(s_a, P_i)$: $C_{\text{close}}(s_a, P_i) = C_{\text{close}}(s_a, P_i) \cup \{s_a\}$
 - $\langle \mathcal{P}', \mathcal{T}', \gamma_3 \rangle$ where γ_3 is the constraint as:
$$\gamma_3 : \forall j \in [i, \dots, m], \exists C'^j_k \in P'_j : (C_{\text{close}}(s_a, P_i) \cup \{s_a\}) \subseteq C'^j_k$$

Interactive clustering: add new object

- Current viewing abstraction level is *ith*
- $C(x, P_i)$: cluster in partition P_i having object x

■ All upper partitions

γ_1' : $\forall j \in [i, \dots, m], \forall x \in \mathcal{X}$:

$$C(x, P'_i) = C(x_{add}, P'_i) \rightarrow C(x, P'_j) = C(x_{add}, P'_j)$$

■ All lower partitions

γ_2' : $\forall k \in [1, \dots, i-1], \forall x \in \mathcal{X}$:

$$C(x, P'_i) \neq C(x_{add}, P'_i) \rightarrow C(x, P'_k) \neq C(x_{add}, P'_k)$$

Dissimilarity approximation for tractography

- Given a **tractography** of n streamlines $\mathcal{T} = \{s_1, \dots, s_n\}$
- Chose a set of **prototype**: $\Pi = \{t_1, \dots, t_d\}$, $\forall i \ t_i \in \mathcal{T}, d \leq n$
- Dissimilarity representation**:

Good representation

$$\rho = \frac{\text{Cov}(d(s, s'), \Delta_{\Pi}^d(s, s'))}{\sigma_{d(s, s')} \sigma_{\Delta_{\Pi}^d(s, s')}}$$

- ρ far from zero and close to 1
- $\Delta_{\Pi}^d(s, s') = \|\phi_{\Pi}^d(s) - \phi_{\Pi}^d(s')\|_2$

$$\phi: \mathcal{T} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^d$$

$$\phi_{\Pi}^d(s) = [d(s, t_1), \dots, d(s, t_d)]$$

Prototype policy

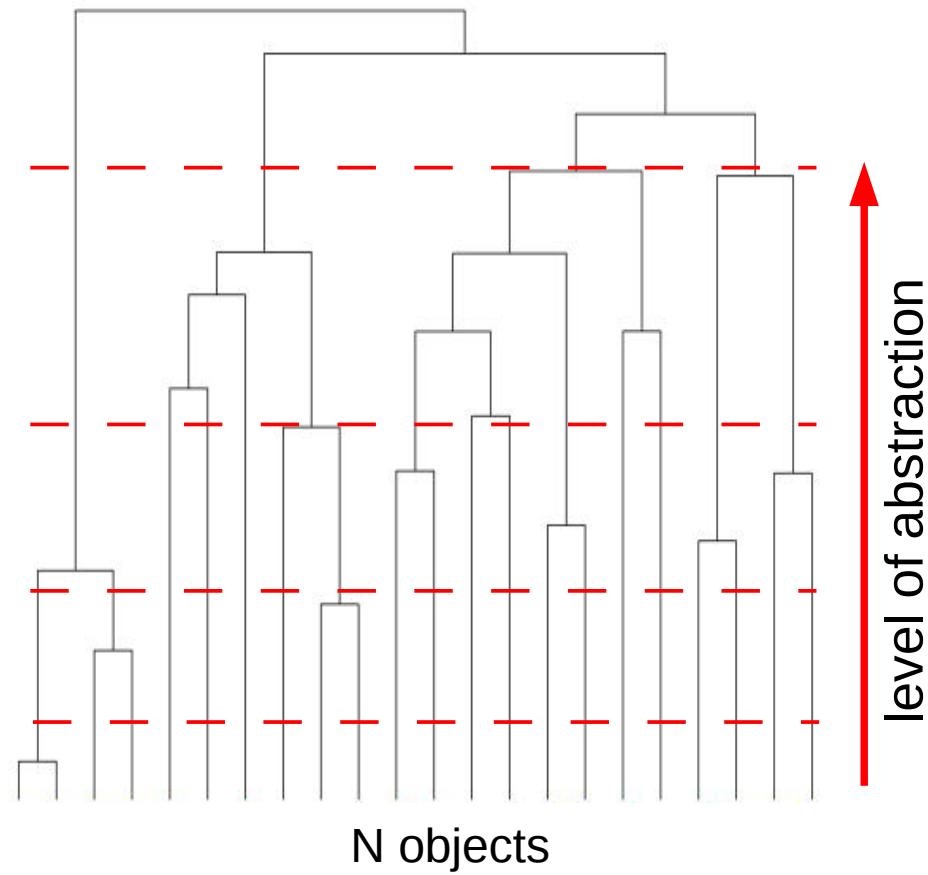
- Random
- FFT (farthest first travel)
- SFF (subset farther first)

Hierarchical clustering

Find m partitions of \mathcal{X} : $\mathcal{P} = \{P_1, \dots, P_m\}$, $P_i \prec P_{i+1}$, $i \in [1, m-1]$

Algorithm

1. Assign each x_i to one cluster
2. Merge two closest clusters
3. Compute distances
4. Repeat until all in one cluster



Interactive clustering: *add object*

Denote δ_{\max} as the maximum distance in cluster C_i

$$\delta_{\max}(C_i) = \max \{d(x, x')\}, \forall x, x' \in C_i, x \neq x'$$

1. Find the closet cluster of x_{add} in P_1 : $C_{\text{close}}(x_{\text{add}}, P_1)$

2. Start from the direct parent of $C_{\text{close}}(x_{\text{add}}, P_1)$:

$$C_{\text{crt}} = C_{\text{close}}(x_{\text{add}}, P_1).\text{parent}$$

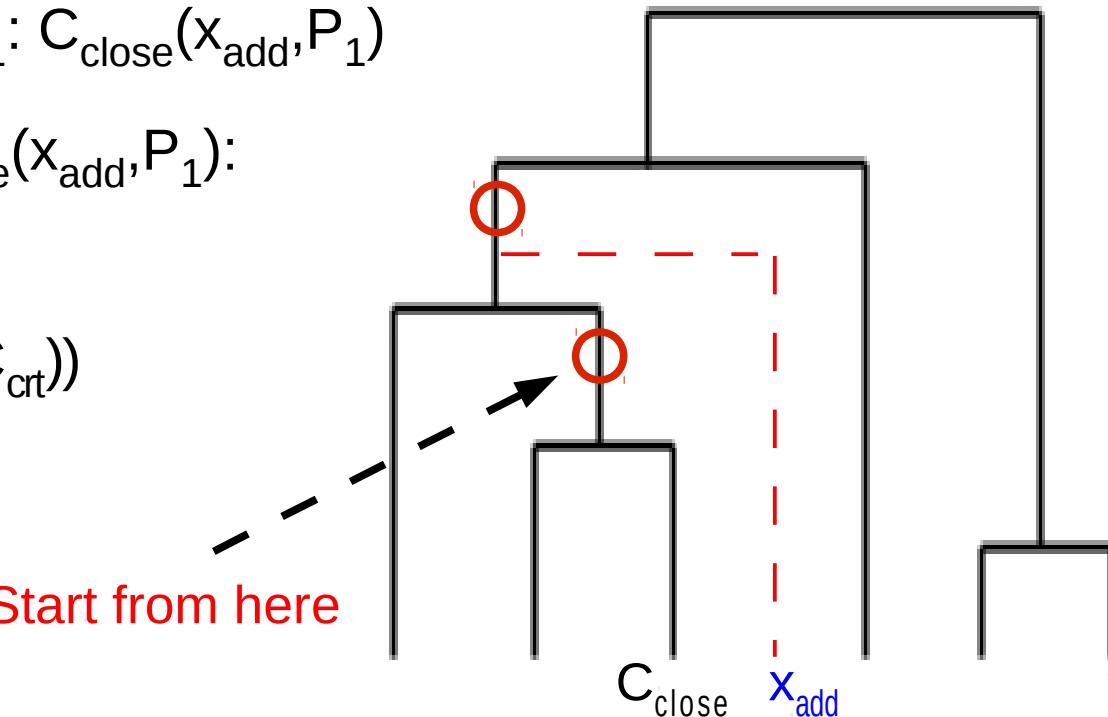
3. If $(C_{\text{crt}} = \emptyset) \vee (d(x_{\text{add}}, C_{\text{crt}}) < \delta_{\max}(C_{\text{crt}}))$

3.1. Merge: $C_{\text{crt}} = C_{\text{crt}} \cup \{s_a\}$

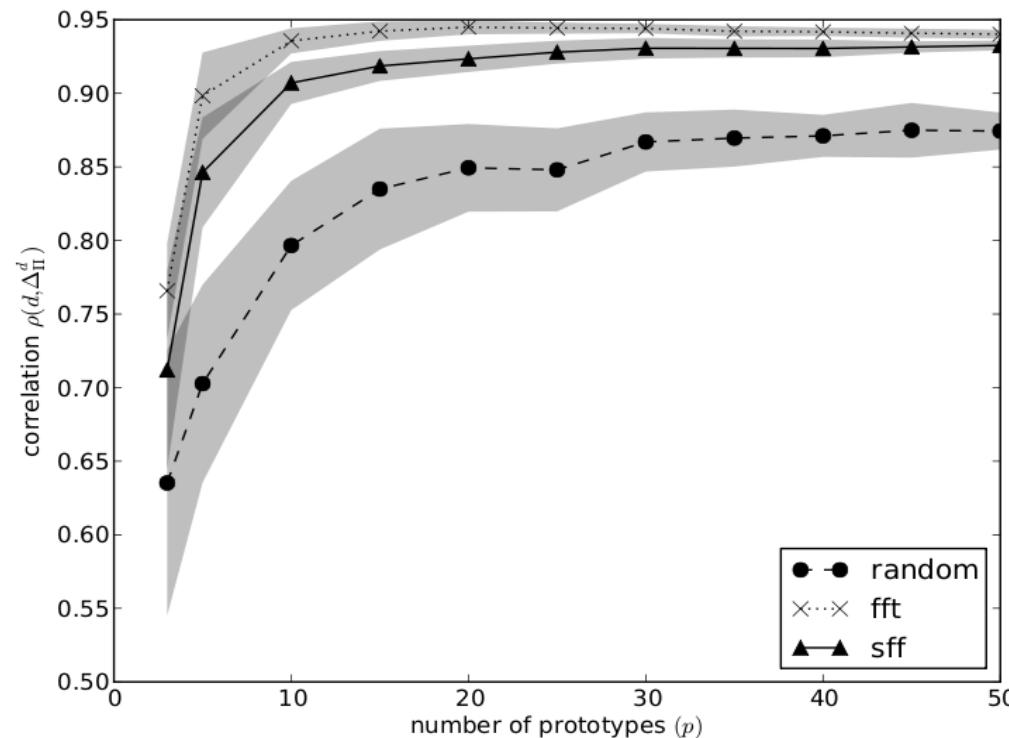
3.2. Stop

Start from here

4. $C_{\text{crt}} = C_{\text{crt}}.\text{parent}$, goto step 3

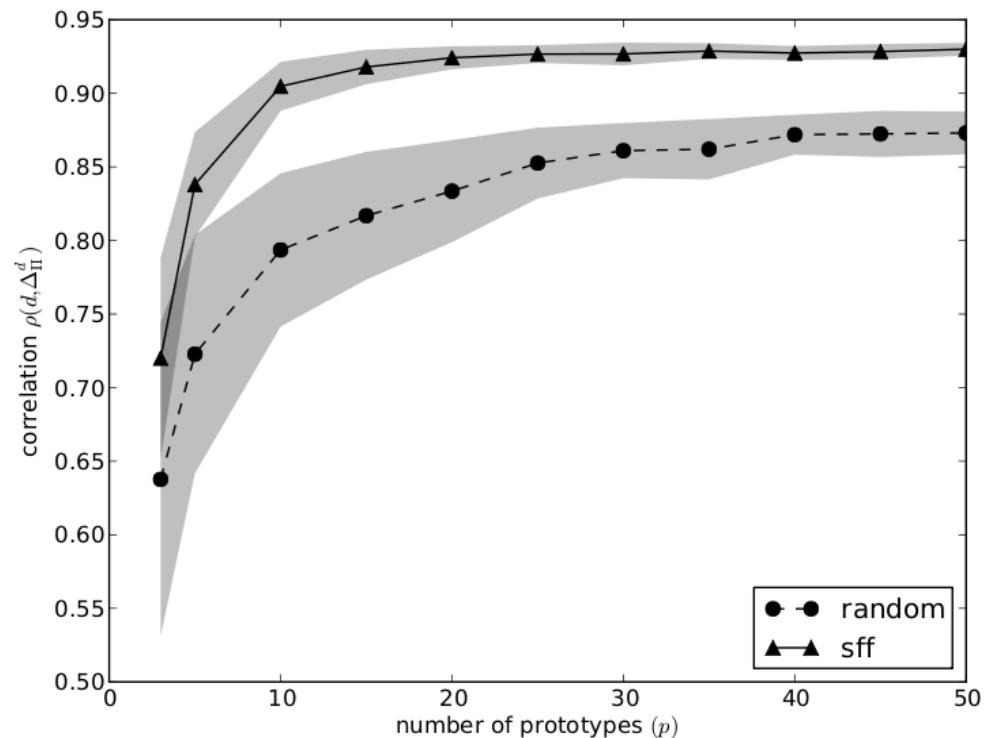


(dis)Similarity approximation for tractography



FFT: < 1secs, SFF: 2 secs (one iteration)

Tractography of 10^3 streamlines

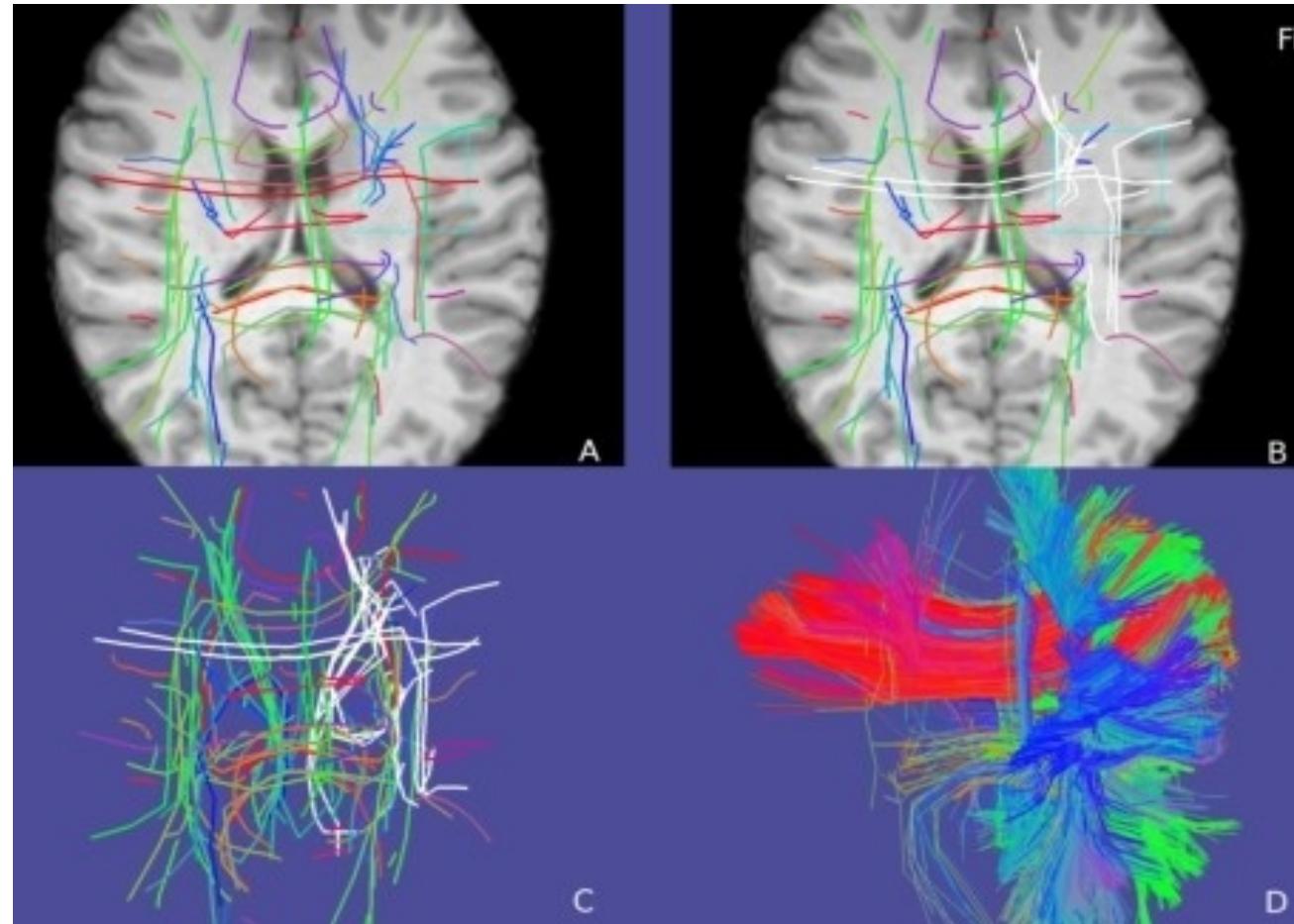


FFT: 15mins, SFF: 2 secs (one iteration)

Tractography of 3×10^5 streamlines

Spaghetti

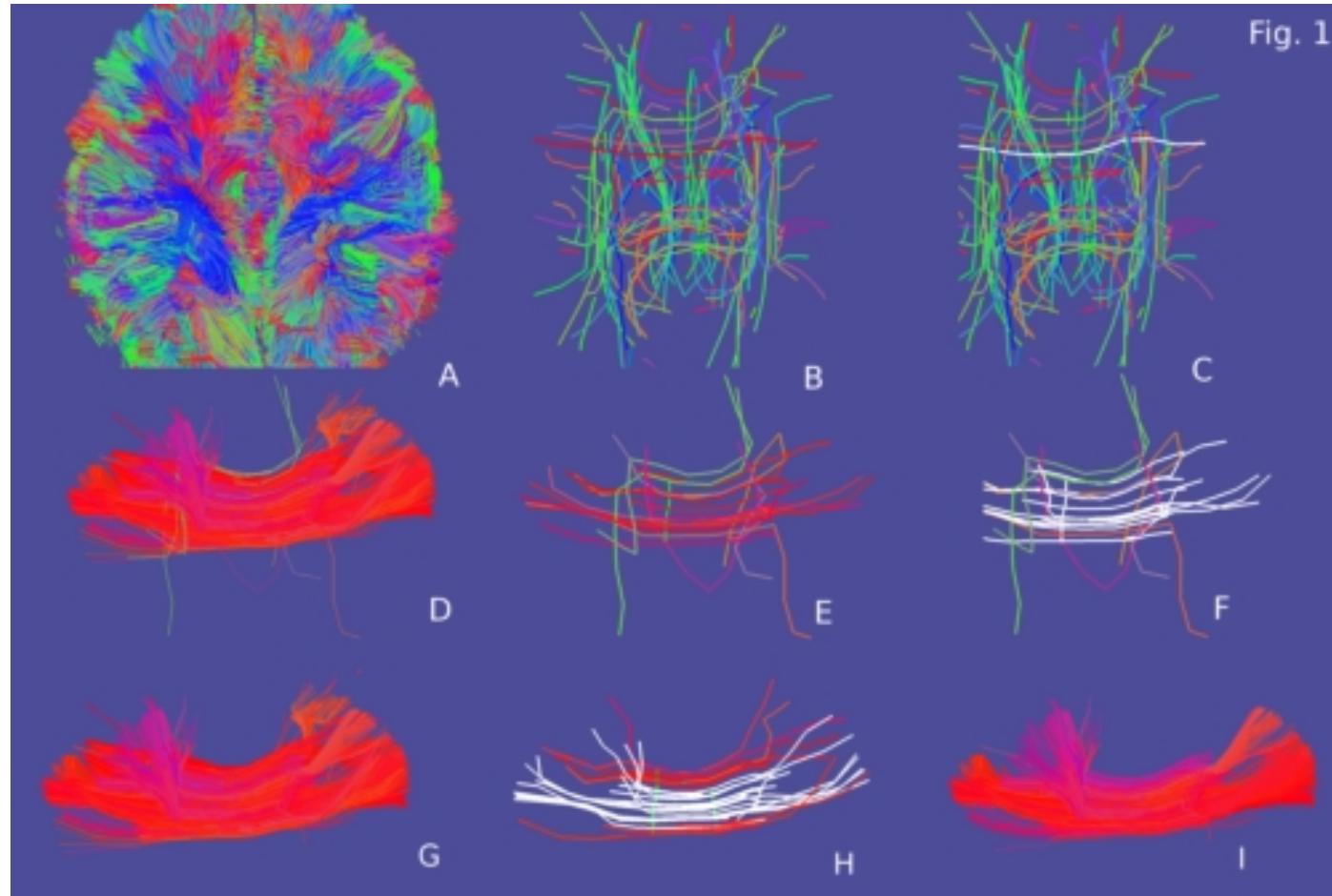
- An interactive visualization tool for segmentation tractography
- Rotate, hide, select, explore, zoom, "cluster", etc



E. Garyfallidis, S. Gerhard, P. Avesani, **T. B. Nguyen**, V. Tsiaras, I. N. Smith, and E. Olivetti, *A software application for real-time, clustering-based exploration of tractographies*, OHBM 2012.

Spaghetti

- Refinement, not support the tract candidate step
- "cluster" – recluster, not change partition



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QuickBundles

- Trajectory clustering algorithm
- Inspired from BIRCH
- Linear time $O(N)$
- Online
- Low Memory Usage
- Simplifies Tractographies
- Every track belongs to one cluster only
- Useful for a huge number of applications

QB creates an online list of cluster nodes. The cluster node is defined as $c = \{I, \mathbf{h}, n\}$ where I is the list of the integer indices of the tracks in that cluster, \mathbf{h} is an $p \times 3$ matrix which is the most important feature of the cluster and n is the number of tracks on that cluster. \mathbf{h} is a matrix which can be updated online when a track is added on a cluster and is equal to

$$\mathbf{h} = \sum_{i=1}^n s_i$$

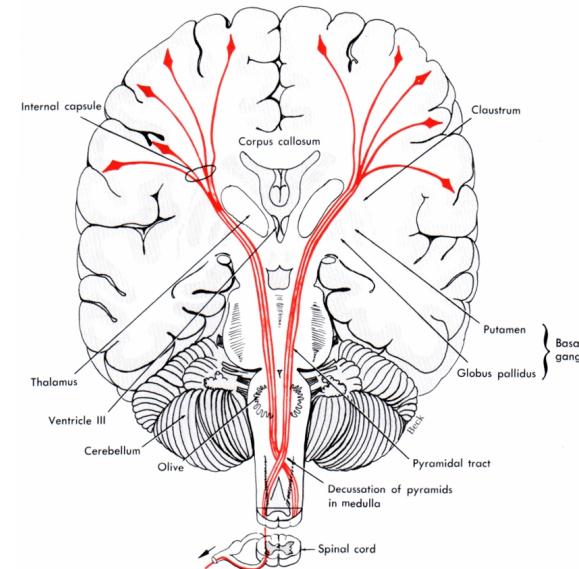
where s_i is the $p \times 3$ matrix representing track i , Σ represents here matrix addition along the second axis and n is the number of tracks in the cluster.

Case study: ALS disease

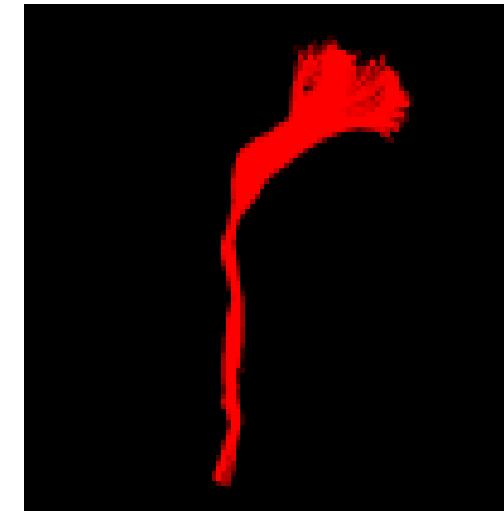
- Aim: CST difference between healthy and ALS (Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis) diseased brains
- Based on tractography approach



ALS disease



Cortical spinal tract
(CST)



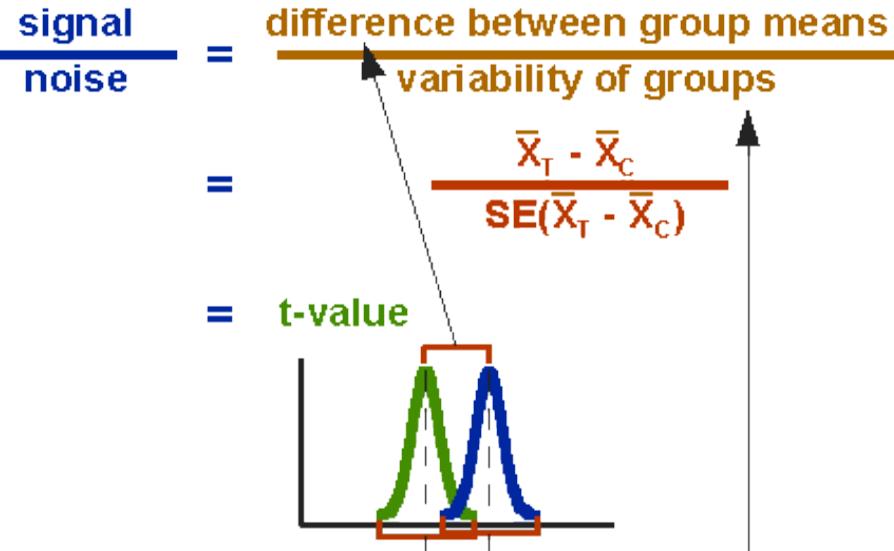
CST segmentation
using Spaghetti

Case study: ALS disease

- Dataset: 12 subjects + 12 controls
- Features: streamline number, length, volume, density, FA (fractional anisotropy), MD (mean diffusion)

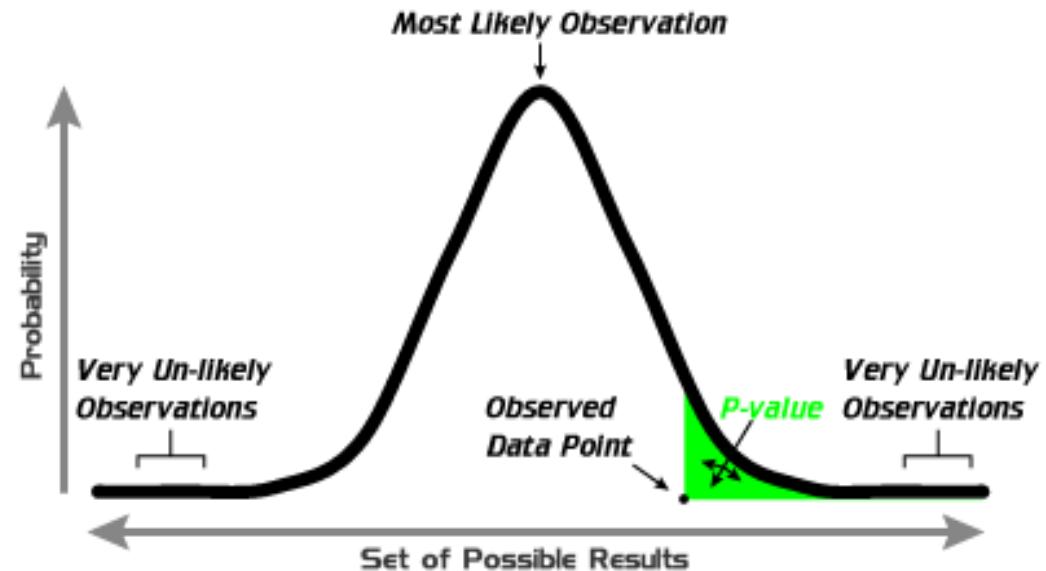
Features	Left		Right	
	t-score	p-value	t-score	p-value
Number	-0.9002843	0.3777187	-4.1417273	0.0004268
Mean length	-1.0671294	0.2974843	0.1987283	0.8443004
Volumn	0.6123652	0.5465741	-3.2843068	0.0033857
Density	-1.5767140	0.1291333	-3.5359672	0.0018566
Mean FA	-0.9798571	0.3378099	-0.1985348	0.8444499
Mean MD	-0.0132796	0.9895244	-0.0856670	0.9325060

t-test



$$\text{SE}(\bar{X}_T - \bar{X}_C) = \sqrt{\frac{\text{var}_T}{n_T} + \frac{\text{var}_C}{n_C}}$$

$$t = \frac{\bar{X}_T - \bar{X}_C}{\sqrt{\frac{\text{var}_T}{n_T} + \frac{\text{var}_C}{n_C}}}$$



p-value is the **probability** of obtaining a test statistic as the one that was actually observed, given the **null hypothesis** is true

Incremental clustering – SoA

Two strategies:

- Incremental clustering **algorithm (cat.1)**
 - directly handle dynamic changes (*hard*)
 - find place and do update on the dendrogram
 - NP problem
- Incremental **data summarization (cat.2)**
 - compress the data incrementally
 - apply standard clustering algorithm subsequently
 - exploit a wide range of current clustering algorithms
 - application driven

Incremental clustering

*Knowledge Acquisition
Via Incremental
Conceptual Clustering*

- Fisher et al., 1987 (*cat.1*)
 - COBWEB: an incremental hierarchical clustering
 - Node: **probabilistic** concept that summarizes the **attribute-value distributions** of all objects under the node
 - Top down strategy
 - At each node: chose action get the best **clustering quality**.
 - Action: Insert, Create, Merge, Split
 - Quality: **CU (Category Utility)**
 - Only consider **normal distribution**
 - Complexity: $O(N * AVB^2 \log K)$
where B : branching factor(2-5), A : attributes,
V : average number of values), K : number of classes/node
 - Each node: pairs (attribute, value)

Incremental clustering

- Ribert et al., 1999 (*cat.1*)

An Incremental Hierarchical Clustering

- Complexity: $O(N^3)$
- ROI – region of influence
- Obtain the same tree as the HAC on the union of the initial dataset and the new case
- Considerably reduce memory usage

- Widyantoro et al., 2002 (*cat.1*)

An incremental approach to building a cluster hierarchy

- $O(N \log N)$ (not include "update MST") $\rightarrow O(N^2 \log N)$
- Find place: closest – MST (minimum spanning tree)
- Restructure: based on "density" property
- Little sensitive to input ordering

Incremental clustering (con't)

- Chen et al., 2002 (*cat.1 + cat.2*)

- GRACE: build a dendrogram, $O(N^2)$
(gravity-based agglomerative hierarchical clustering)
- From dendrogram, generate the **tentative dendrogram**
- Insertion: $O(N)$ (or $O(N^2)$ in the worst case)
 - i. Belong to leaf node → insert (*cat. 1*)
 - ii. No: in outlier buffer → exceed threshold, reapply GRACE (*cat.2*)
- No deletion
- Not sensitive to input ordering
- $O(N^3)$ (or $O(N^4)$ in the worst case)

An incremental hierarchical data clustering algorithm based on gravity theory

Incremental clustering

- Nassar et al., 2004 (*cat.2*)

- Domain: KDD (knowledge discovery in database)
- Create dendrogram:
 - i. Random s seed points
 - ii. Compress data: create s "data bubbles"
 $B = (rep, n, extent, nnDist)$
 - iii. Run hierarchical clustering on s "bubbles"
- Update: measure 'bubble' quality
→ reassign points among "bubbles"
- Rerun clustering algorithm when the number of seed changes
- O (s * N)

Incremental and effective data summarization for dynamic hierarchical clustering

Incremental clustering (con't)

- Gurrutxaga et al., 2009 (*cat. 1*)

SIHC: A Stable Incremental Hierarchical Clustering Algorithm

- Complexity: $O(N^2 \log N)$
- Top-down strategy
- Each node: height
- Place: $\text{height}(\text{current node}) < \text{distance}(\text{new object}, \text{current node})$
 - i. Insert into current node
 - ii. Else: update height and traverse the nearest child node
- No deletions
- Little sensitive to input ordering
- Keep the original structure

Incremental clustering (con't)

*Efficient clustering approach using
incremental and hierarchical
clustering methods*

- Srinivas et al., 2010 (*not incremental*)
 - Two phases: LC and HAC
 - LC (leader clustering): create m sub-clusters
 - ✓ Complexity: best – $O(N)$ or worst - $O(N^2)$
 - ✓ Similar to QB (QuickBundle)
 - HAC (hierarchical agglomerative clustering)
 - ✓ Complexity : $O(m^2 \log m)$
 - ✓ Bottom-up strategy
 - Similarity measurement: cohesion or joinability of two clusters

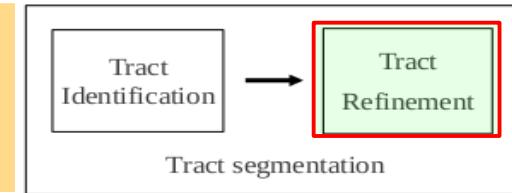
Incremental clustering (con't)

*Document update summarization
using incremental hierarchical
clustering*

- Wang et al., 2010 (*cat.1*)

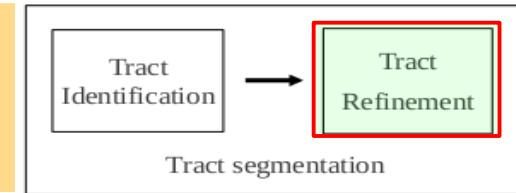
- Two phases: summarization and clustering
- Summarization: create sentence matrix of input document
 - ✓ Sentence: a set of pairs (term, frequency)
- Clustering: COBWEB
 - ✓ Not normal distribution, but **Katz distribution** (*word occurrence*)
- Similar to original COBWEB, only use different distribution

Interactive clustering – challenges



- Intuitive display of both the hierarchy and the instances at the same time
- Maintain the history of operations
- Provide a **stable structure** of the dendrogram
 - Not **drammatically change** the previous one
 - User can **assimilate the changes**
- At an **acceptable computational cost**

Interactive clustering – close solutions



- Widyantoro et al., 2002 (*cat.1*)

An incremental approach to building a cluster hierarchy

$O(N \log N)$

v.s

build MST ($O(N^2 \log N)$)
+ not stable structure

- Gurrutxaga et al., 2009 (*cat. 1*)

SIHC: A Stable Incremental Hierarchical Clustering Algorithm

Keep a stable structure

v.s

$O(N^2 \log N)$

- Nassar et al., 2004 (*cat.2*)

Incremental and effective data summarization for dynamic hierarchical clustering

$O(m * N)$

v.s

data summarization

Incremental clustering (con't)

● Sahoo et al., 2006 (*cat. 1*)

*Incremental hierarchical clustering
of text documents (good)*

- , $O(N^2)$
(gravity-based agglomerative hierarchical clustering)
- From dendrogram, generate **tentative dendrogram**
- Insertion: $O(N)$ (or $O(N^2)$ in the worst case)
 - i. Belong to leaf node → insert (*cat. 1*)
 - ii. No: put in outlier buffer → exceed threshold, reapply GRACE (*cat. 2*)
-
- Not sensitive to input ordering