

# Computer-aided diagnosis of subtle signs of breast cancer: Architectural distortion in prior mammograms

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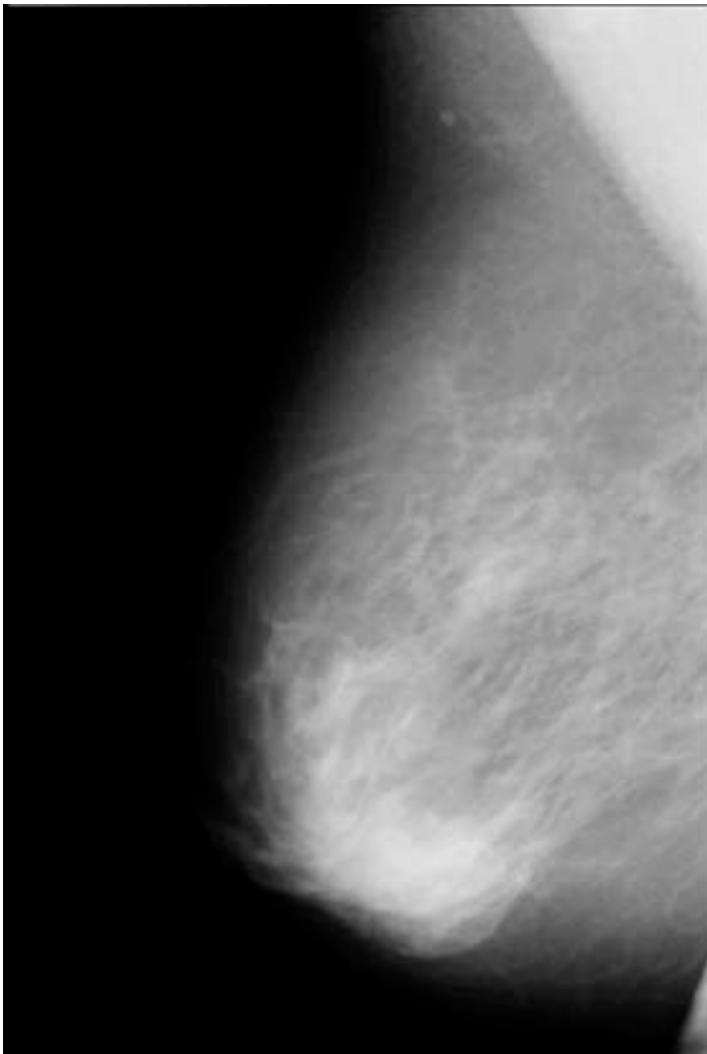
SCHULICH  
School of Engineering



DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRICAL  
AND COMPUTER ENGINEERING



# Mammography



## Signs of Breast Cancer:

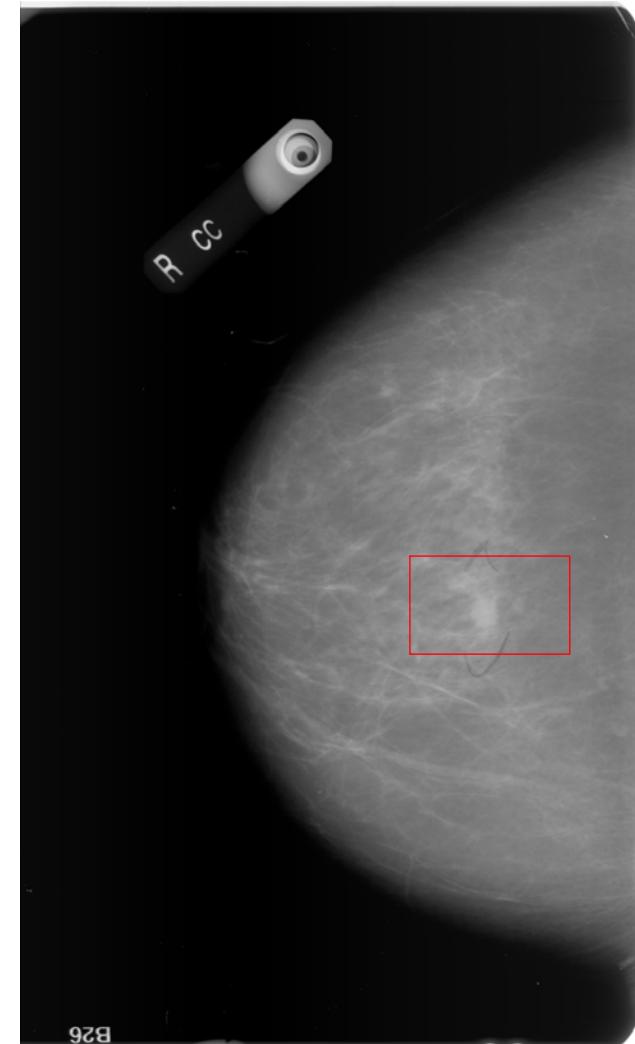
- Masses
- Calcifications
- Bilateral asymmetry
- Architectural distortion  
(often missed)



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# Masses

- Breast cancer causes a desmoplastic reaction in breast tissue
  
- A mass is observed as a bright, hyperdense object



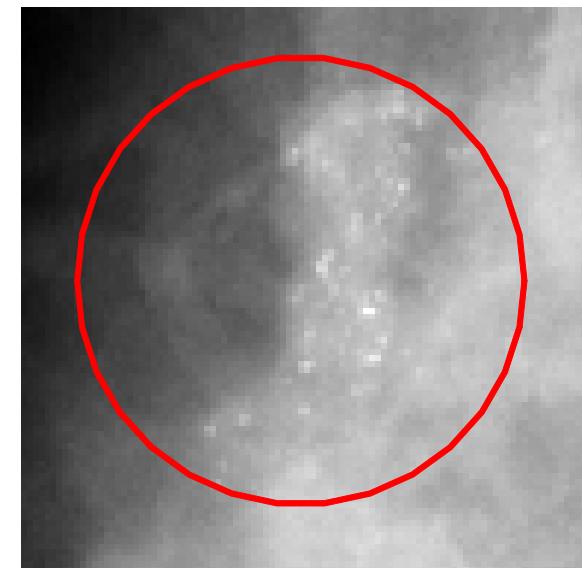


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# Calcification



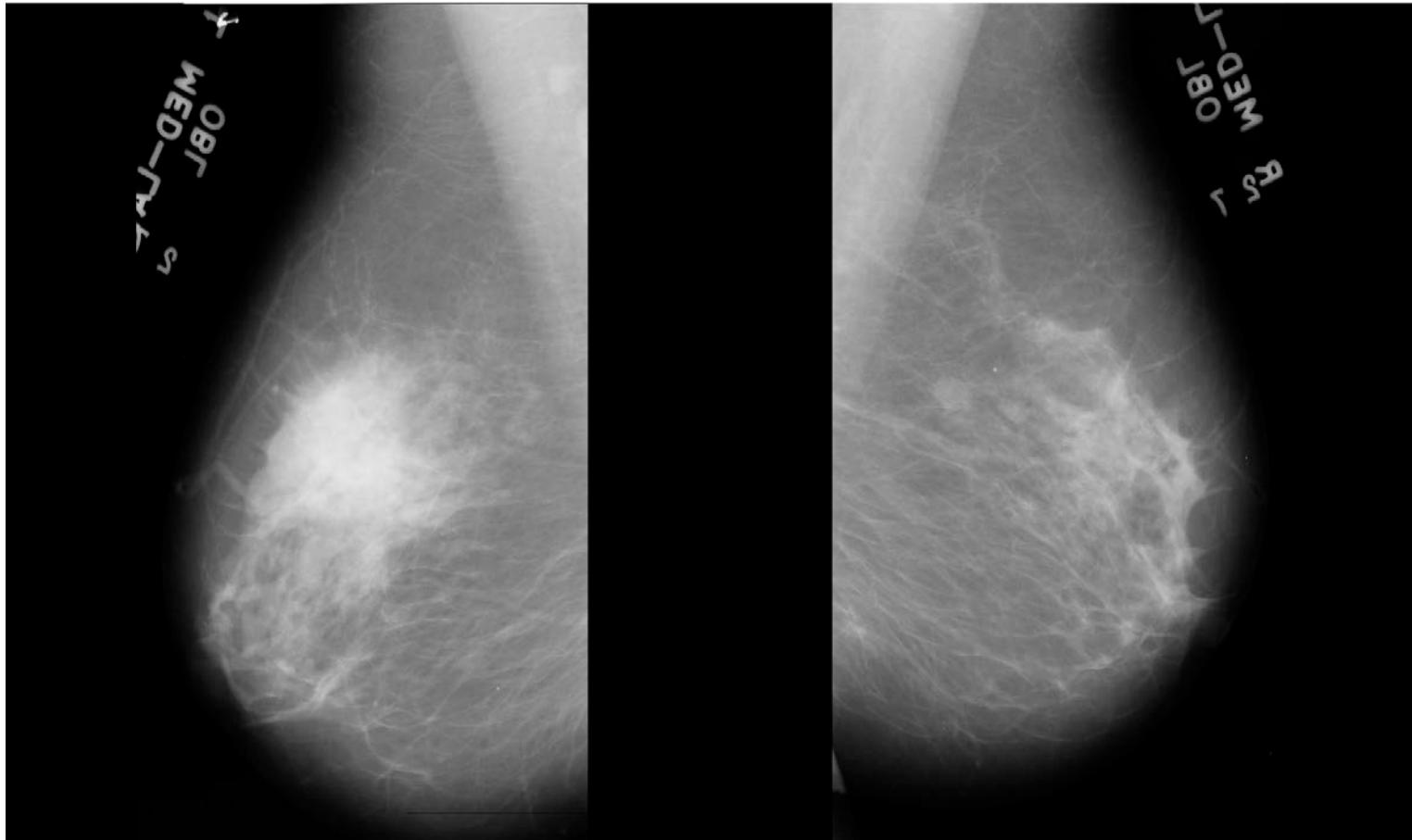
Deposits of calcium  
in breast tissue





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# Bilateral asymmetry



Differences in the overall density distribution in the two breasts



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# Computer-aided diagnosis

- Increased number of cancers detected
- Increased early-stage malignancies detected
- Increased recall rate
- Missed cases of architectural distortion



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# Architectural distortion

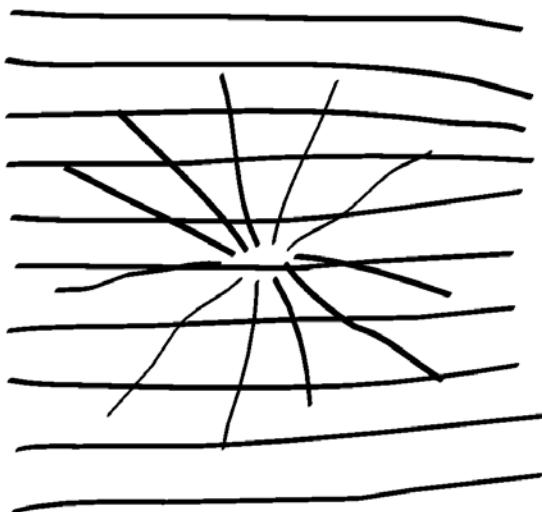
- Third most common mammographic sign of nonpalpable breast cancer
- The normal architecture of the breast is distorted
- No definite mass visible
- Spiculations radiating from a point
- Focal retraction or distortion at the edge of the parenchyma



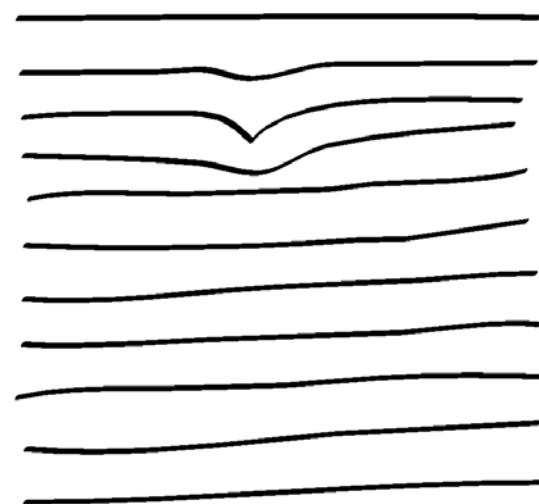


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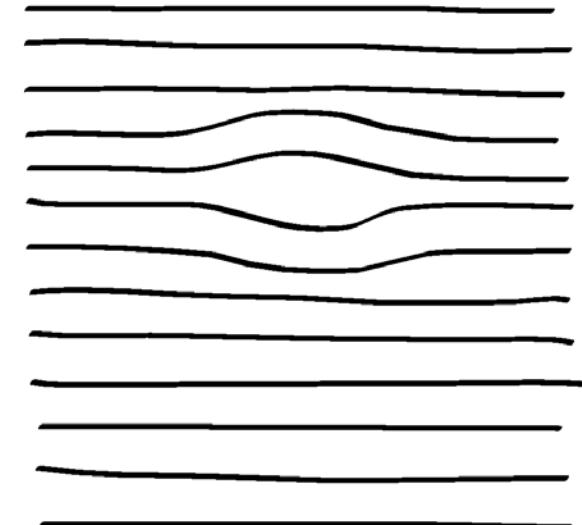
# Architectural distortion



spiculated



focal retraction

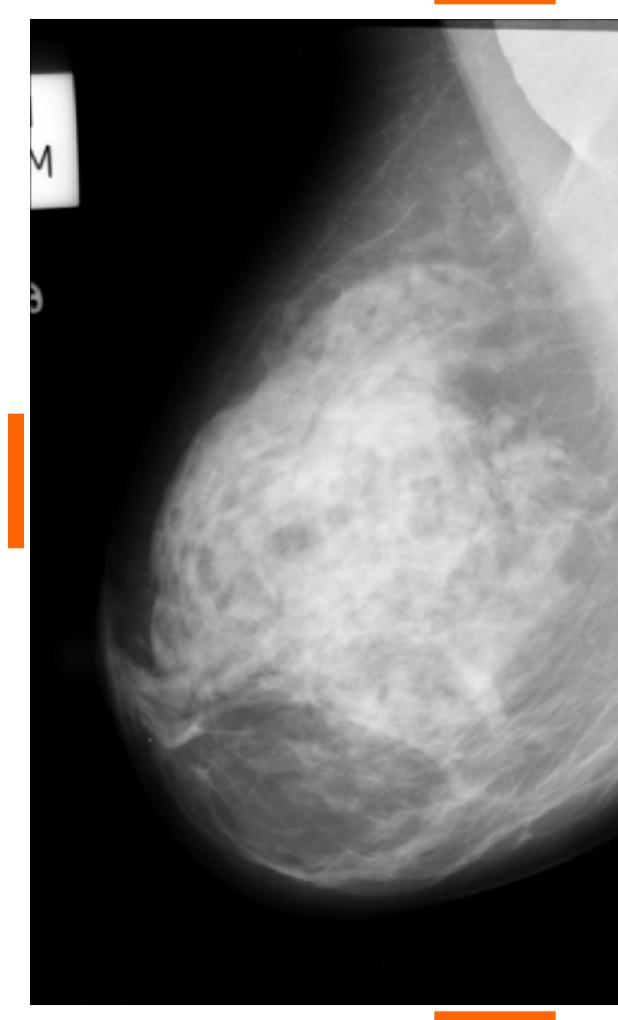
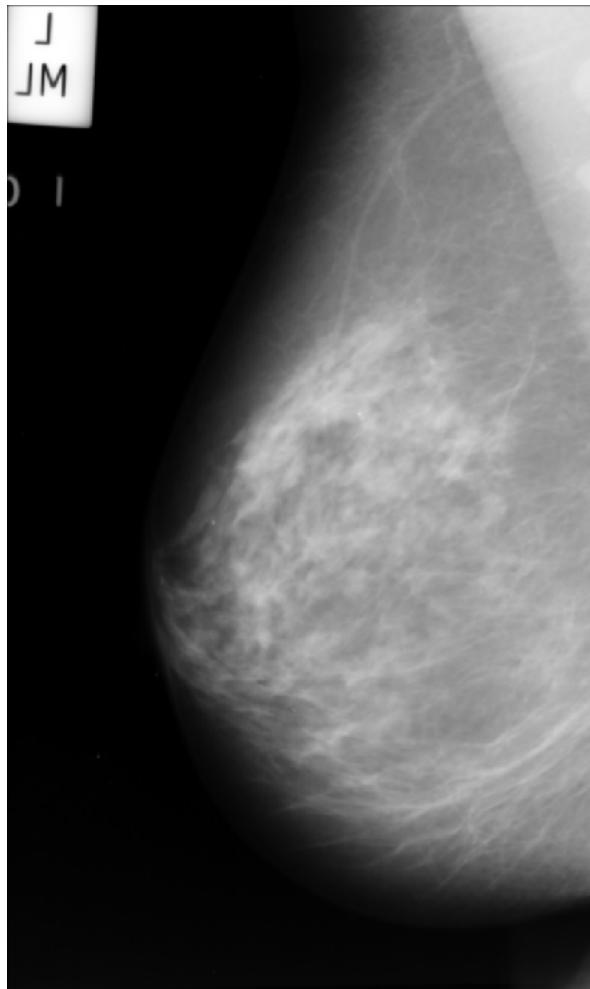


incipient mass



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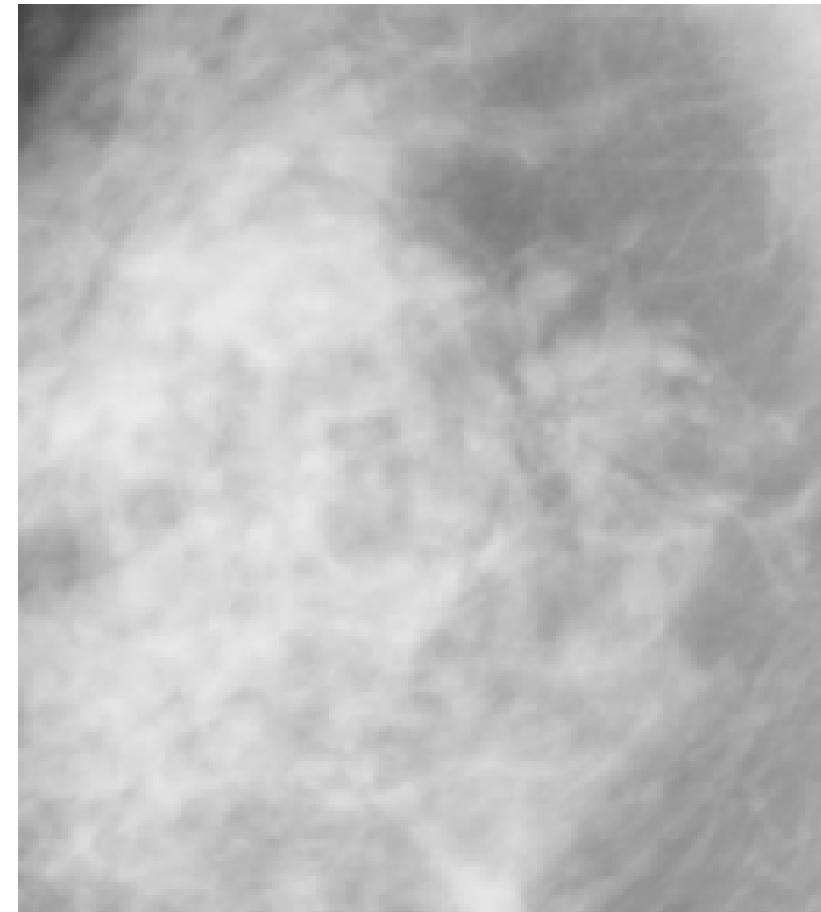
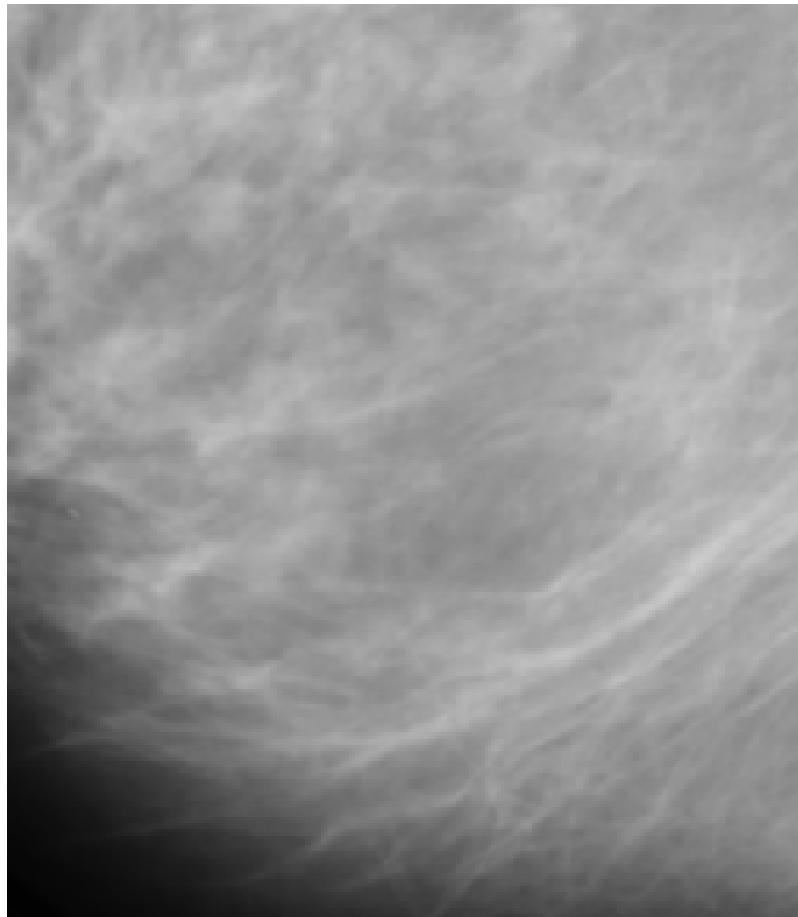
# Normal vs architectural distortion





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# Normal vs architectural distortion



10



# Initial algorithm for detection of architectural distortion

1. Extract the orientation field
2. Filter and downsample the orientation field
3. Analyze orientation field using phase portraits
4. Postprocess the phase portrait maps
5. Detect sites of architectural distortion

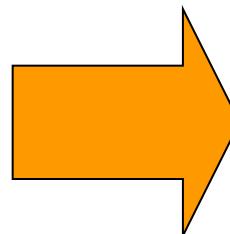


# Gabor filter

$$g(x, y) = \frac{1}{2\pi\sigma_x\sigma_y} \exp\left[-\frac{1}{2}\left(\frac{x^2}{\sigma_x^2} + \frac{y^2}{\sigma_y^2}\right)\right] \cos(2\pi f x)$$

Design parameters

- line thickness  $\tau$
- elongation  $l$
- orientation  $\theta$



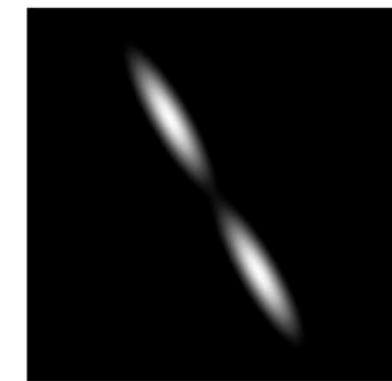
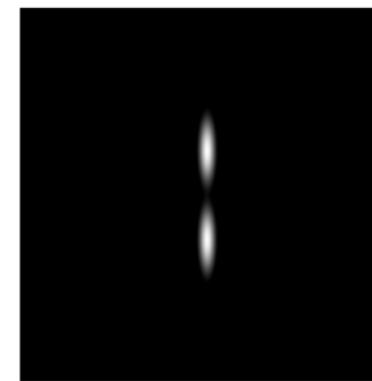
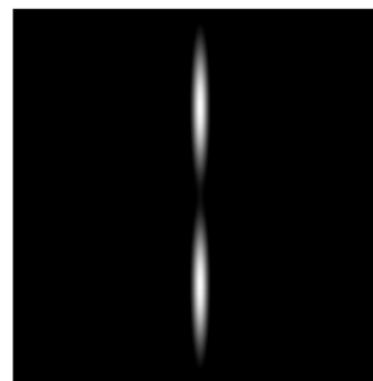
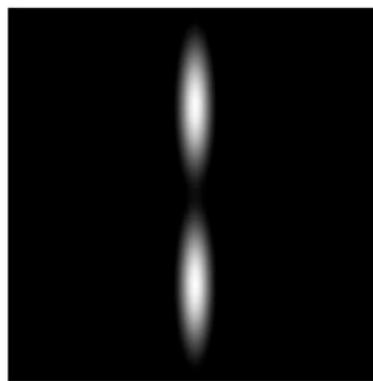
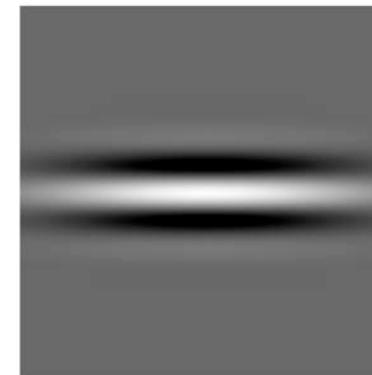
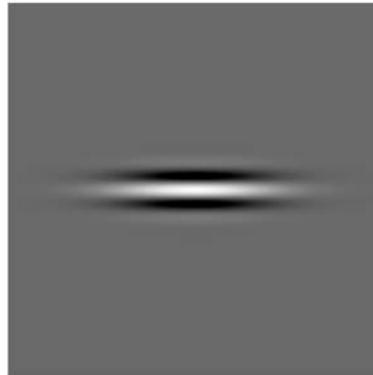
Gabor parameters

$$f = \frac{1}{\tau}; \quad \sigma_x = \frac{\tau}{2\sqrt{2\ln 2}}$$

$$\sigma_y = l\sigma_x; \quad \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \cos\theta & -\sin\theta \\ \sin\theta & \cos\theta \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x' \\ y' \end{bmatrix}$$



# Design of Gabor filters



$$l = l_0$$

$$\tau = \tau_0$$

$$\theta = \theta_0$$

$$l > l_0$$

$$\tau = \tau_0$$

$$\theta = \theta_0$$

$$l = l_0$$

$$\tau > \tau_0$$

$$\theta = \theta_0$$

$$l = l_0$$

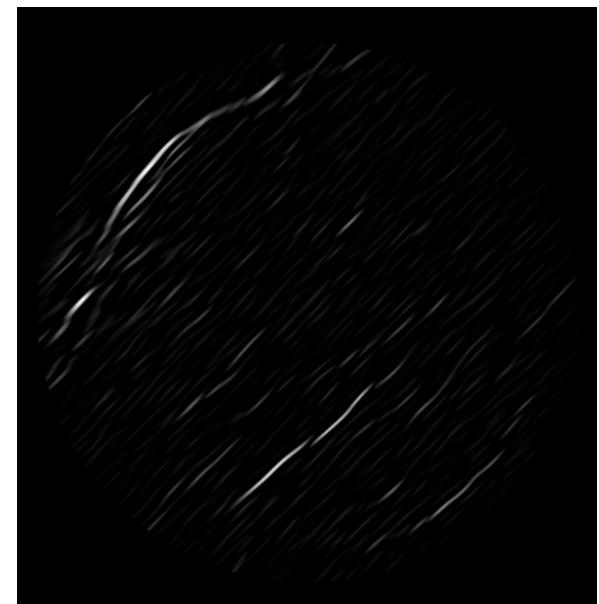
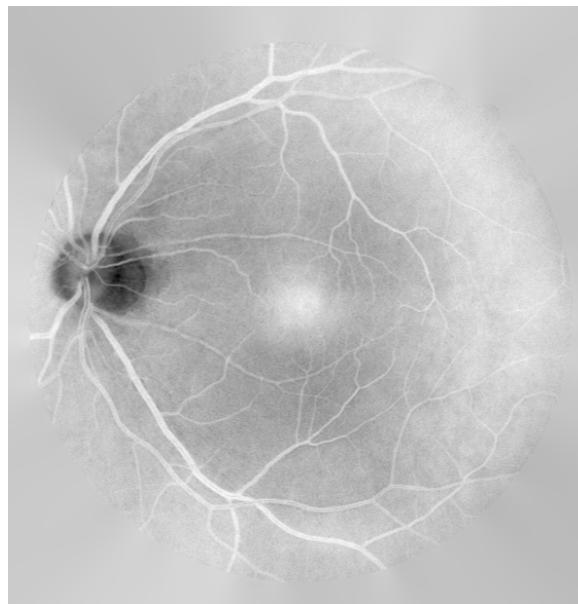
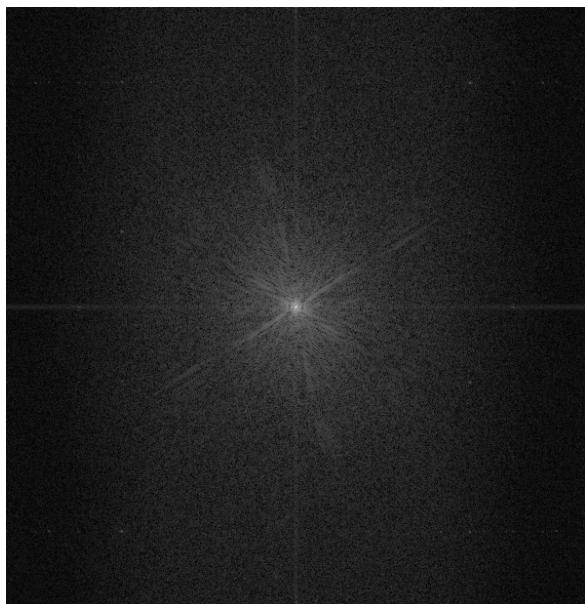
$$\tau = \tau_0$$

$$\theta > \theta_0$$



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# Example of Gabor filtering



*Log-magnitude  
Fourier spectrum*

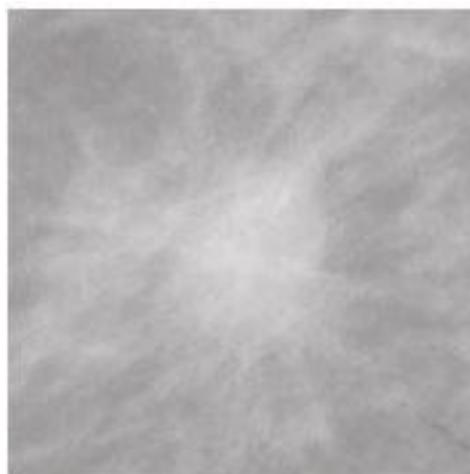
*Inverted Y channel  
of retinal fundus image*

*Magnitude response of  
a single Gabor filter:  
 $\tau = 8$ ,  $l = 2.9$ ,  $\theta = 45^\circ$*

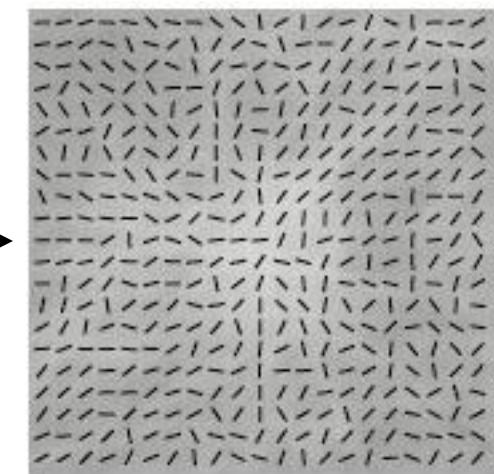


# Extracting the orientation field

Compute the texture orientation (angle) at each pixel



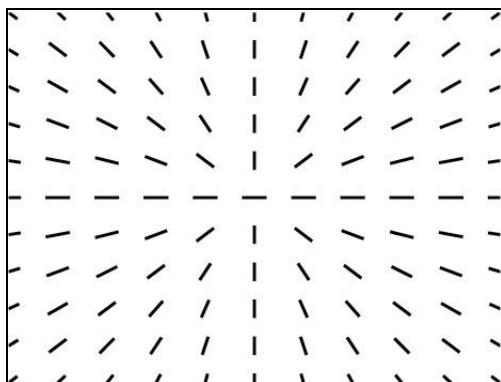
Gabor filtering  
(line detection)



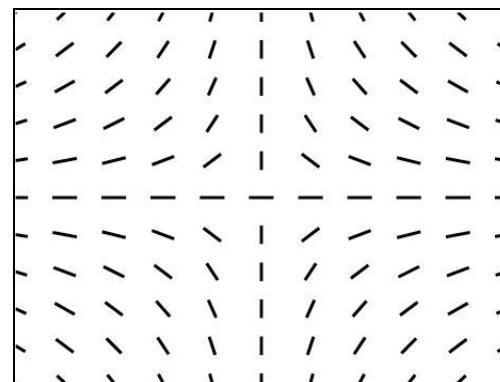


# Phase portraits

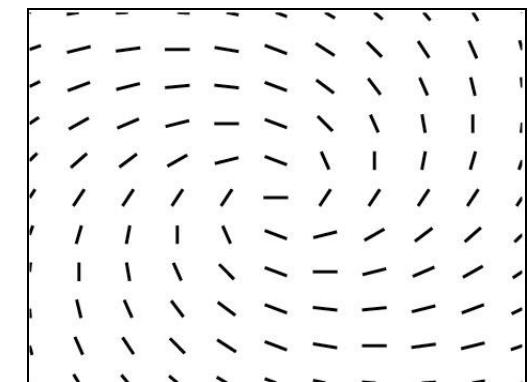
$$\vec{v}(x, y) = \begin{pmatrix} v_x \\ v_y \end{pmatrix} = \mathbf{A} \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix} + \mathbf{b}$$



node



saddle



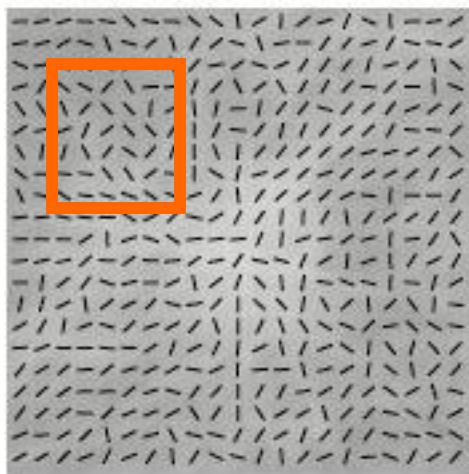
spiral



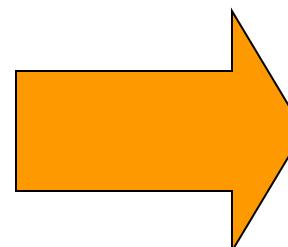
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# Texture analysis using phase portraits

Fit phase portrait model to the analysis window



*Nonlinear  
least squares  
optimization*



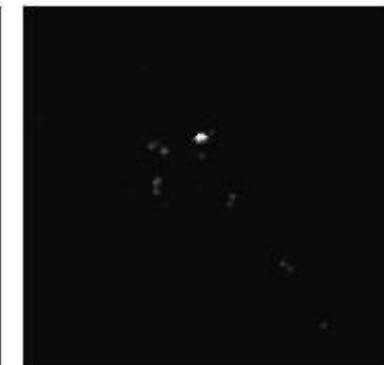
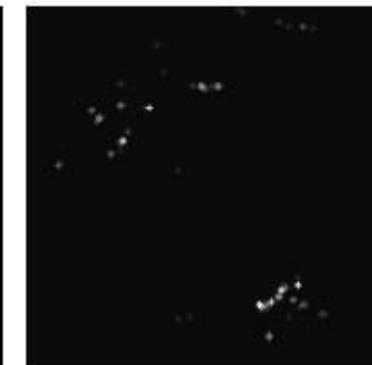
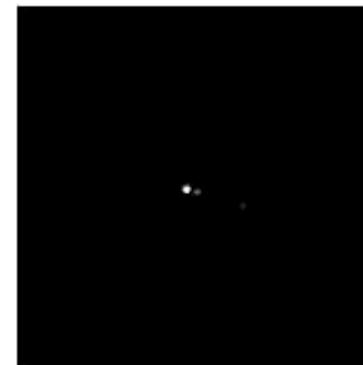
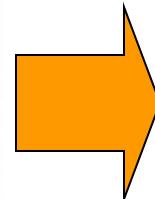
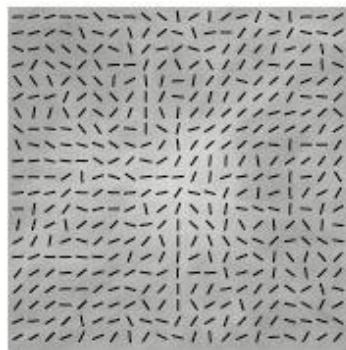
$$\mathbf{A} = \begin{bmatrix} 1.1 & 0.3 \\ -0.2 & 1.7 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\mathbf{b} = \begin{bmatrix} -4.8 \\ -7.9 \end{bmatrix}$$



# Texture analysis using phase portraits

Cast a vote at the fixed point =  $\mathbf{A}^{-1} \mathbf{b}$  in the corresponding phase portrait map



Orientation  
field

*real eigenvalues  
of same sign*

Node

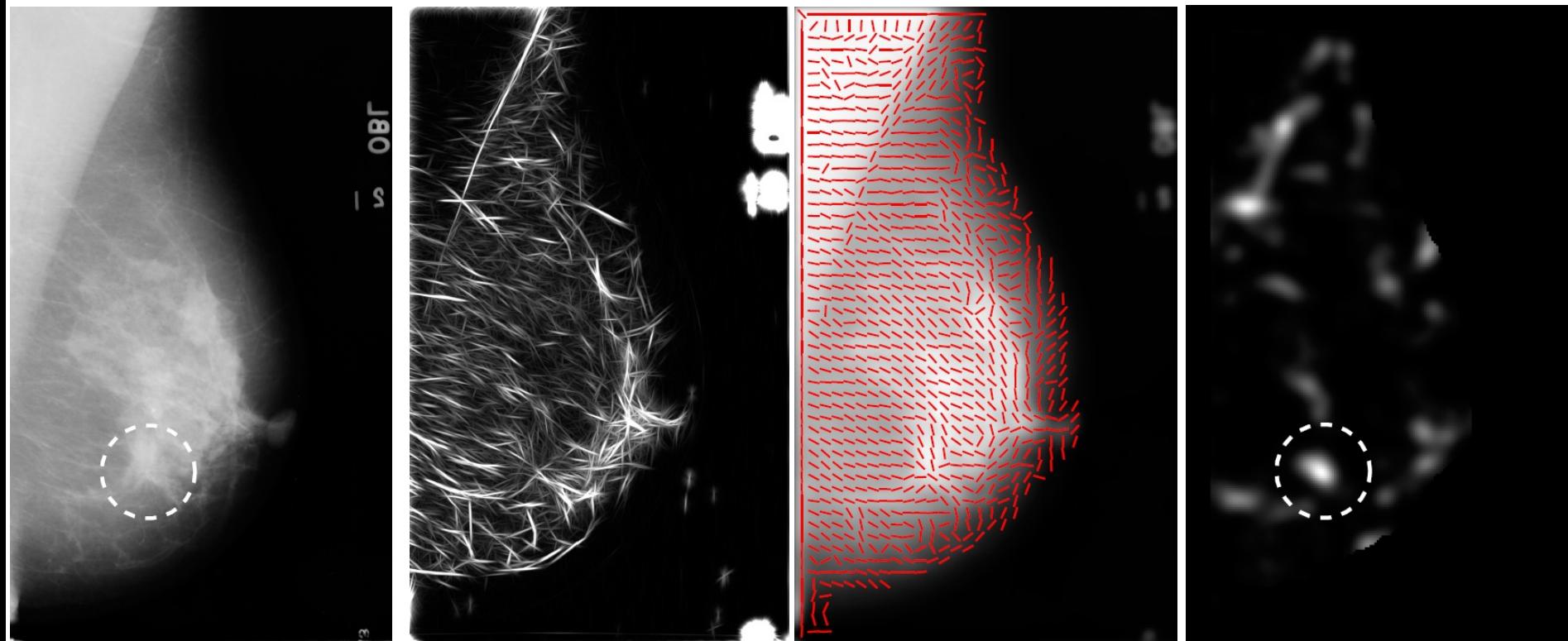
Saddle

Spiral



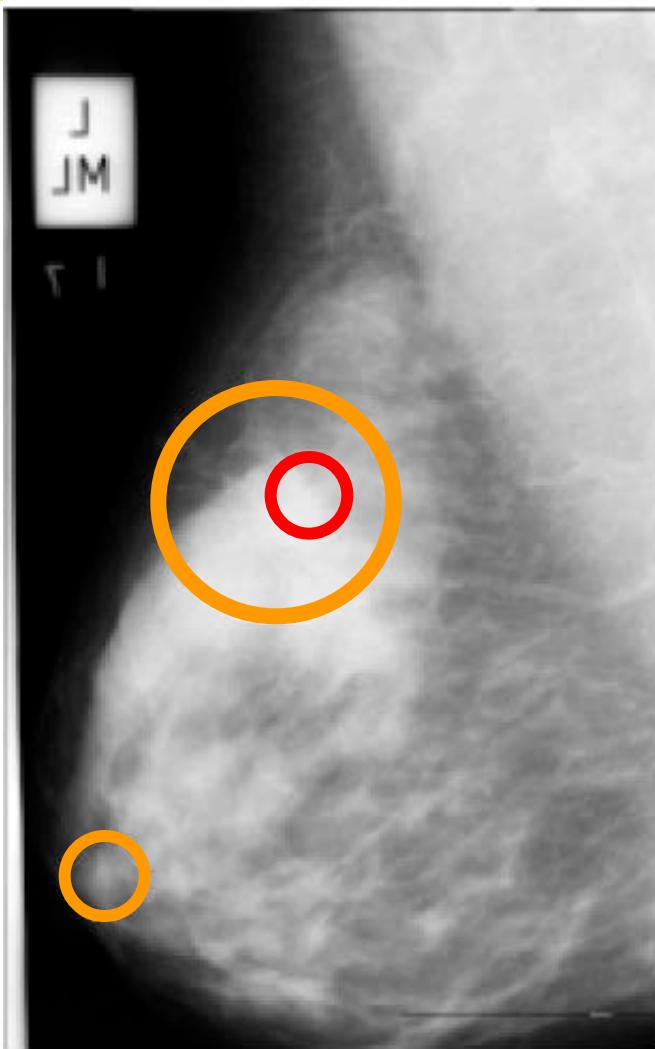
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# Detection of architectural distortion





# Initial results of detection

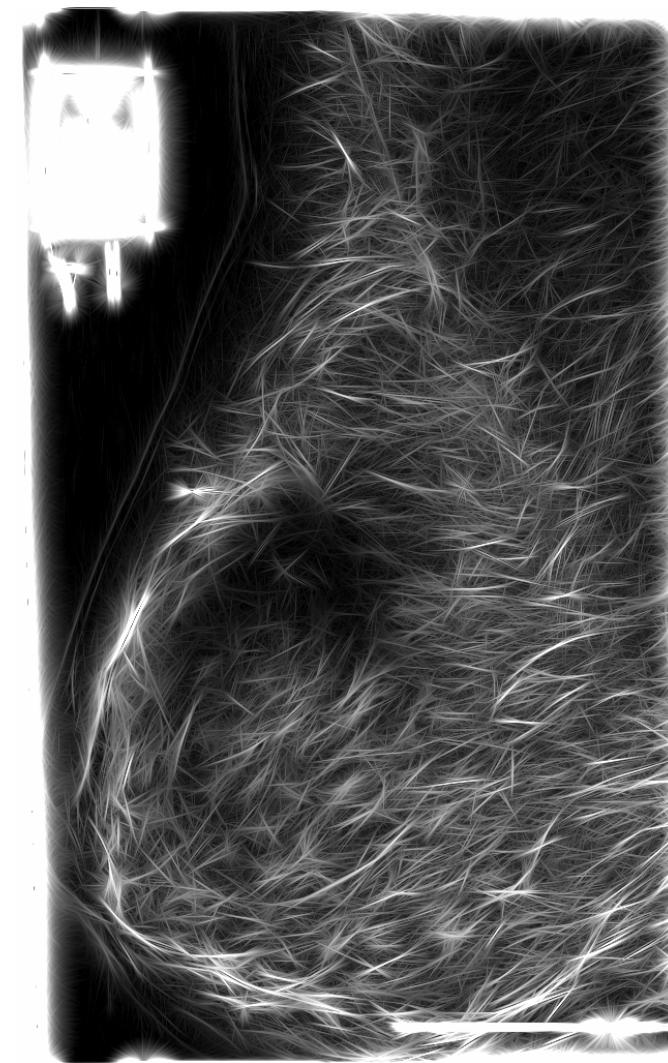


- ❑ Test dataset: 19 mammograms with architectural distortion (MIAS database)
- ❑ Sensitivity: 84%
- ❑ 18 false positives per image!



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# Reduction of false positives





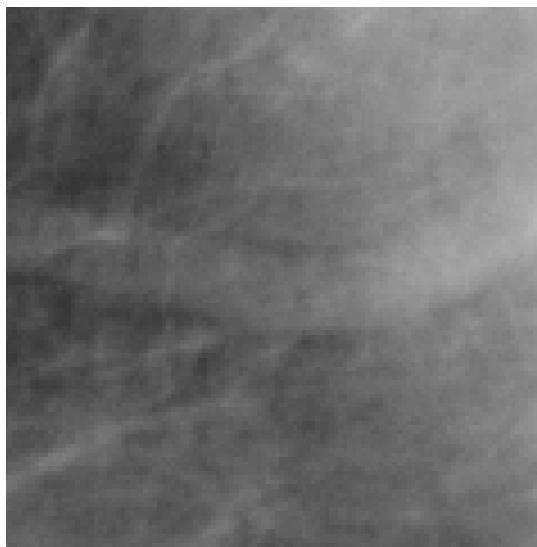
# Rejection of confounding structures

- Confounding structures include
  - ❖ Edges of vessels
  - ❖ Intersections of vessels
  - ❖ Edge of the pectoral muscle
  - ❖ Edge of the fibroglandular disk

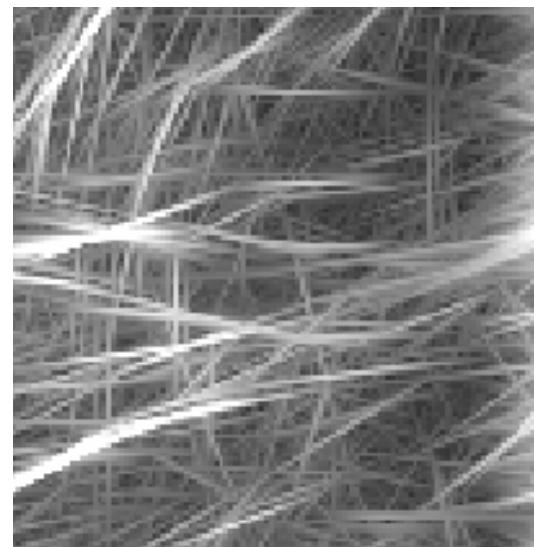
*"Curvilinear Structures"*



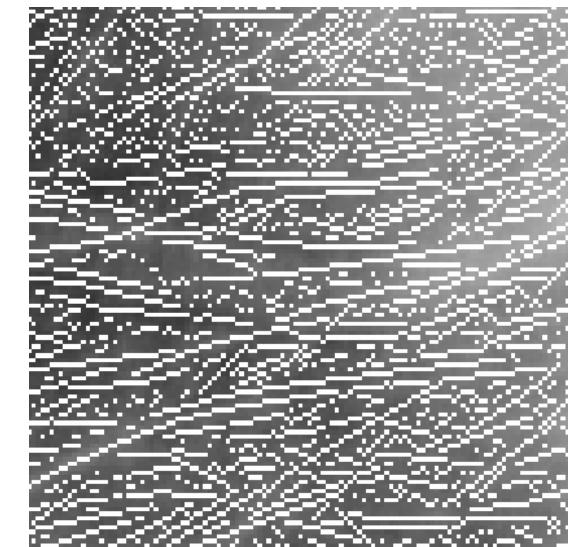
# Nonmaximal suppression



*ROI with a vessel*



*Gabor magnitude  
output*



*Output of  
nonmaximal  
suppression (NMS)*

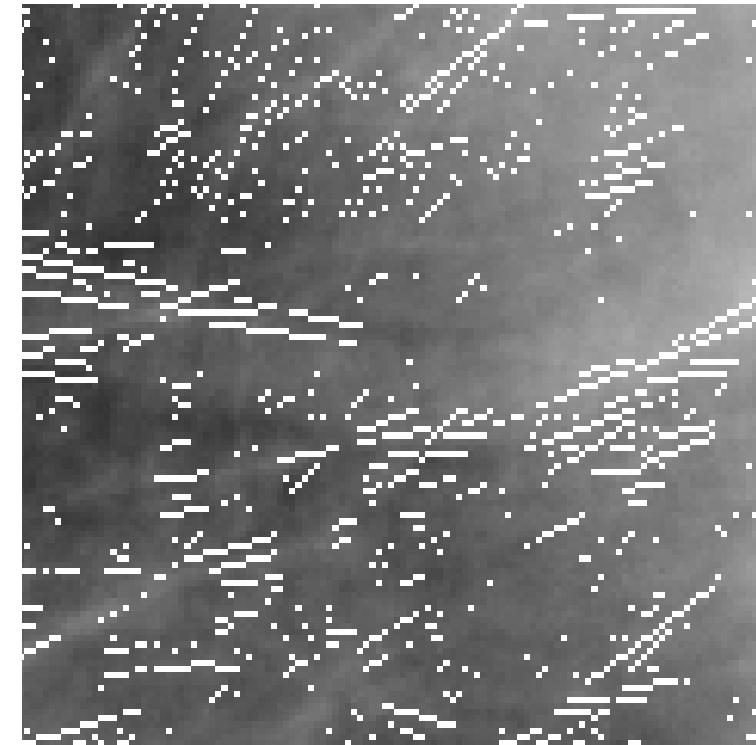


# Rejection of confounding CLS

*Output of NMS*



*CLS Retained*

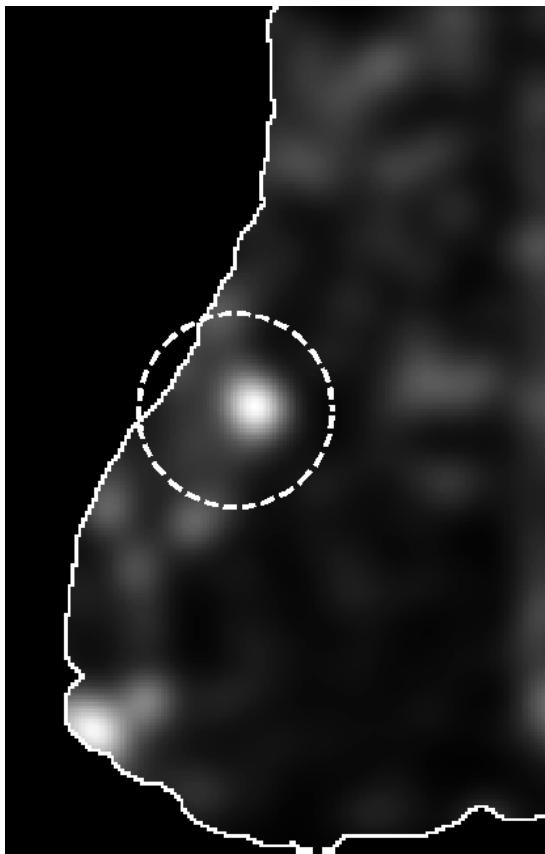


*Angle from the orientation field and direction perpendicular to the gradient vector differ by  $< 30^\circ$*

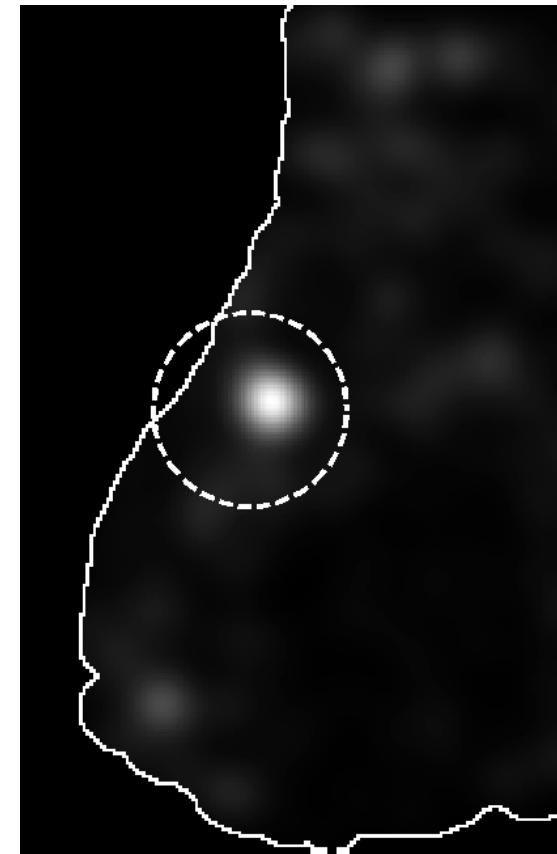


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# Improved detection of sites of architectural distortion



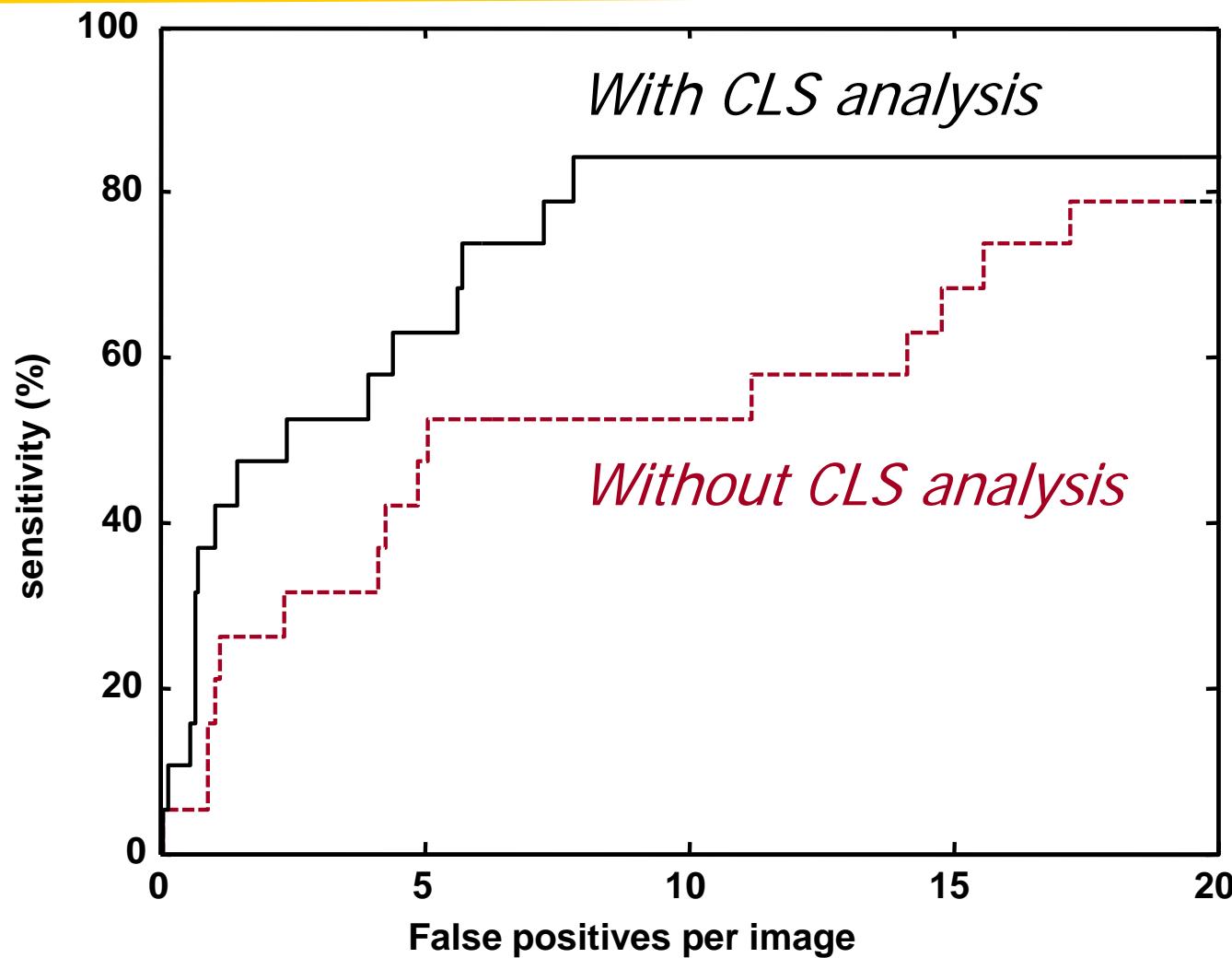
*Node map*  
*(without CLS analysis)*



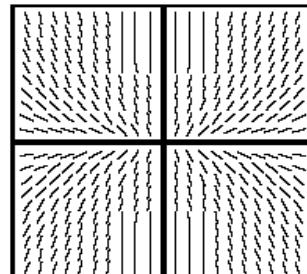
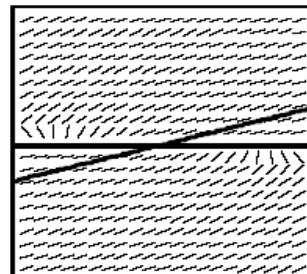
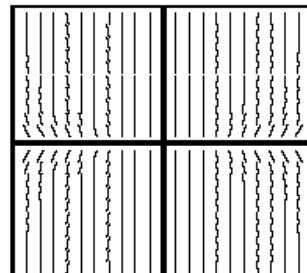
*Node map*  
*(with CLS analysis)*



# Free-response ROC analysis



# Effect of condition number of matrix $A$ on the orientation field

| Example | Matrix A  | Eigenvalues                         | Angle between principal axes | Condition number | Orientation field   |
|---------|---|-------------------------------------|------------------------------|------------------|---|
| A       | $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 3 \end{bmatrix}$    | $\lambda_1 = 1$<br>$\lambda_2 = 3$  | $90^\circ$                   | 3                |    |
| B       | $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 7.46 \\ 0 & 3 \end{bmatrix}$ | $\lambda_1 = 1$<br>$\lambda_2 = 3$  | $15^\circ$                   | 21.85            |   |
| C       | $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 20 \end{bmatrix}$   | $\lambda_1 = 1$<br>$\lambda_2 = 20$ | $90^\circ$                   | 20               |  |

Condition Number: The ratio of the largest to smallest singular value of a matrix



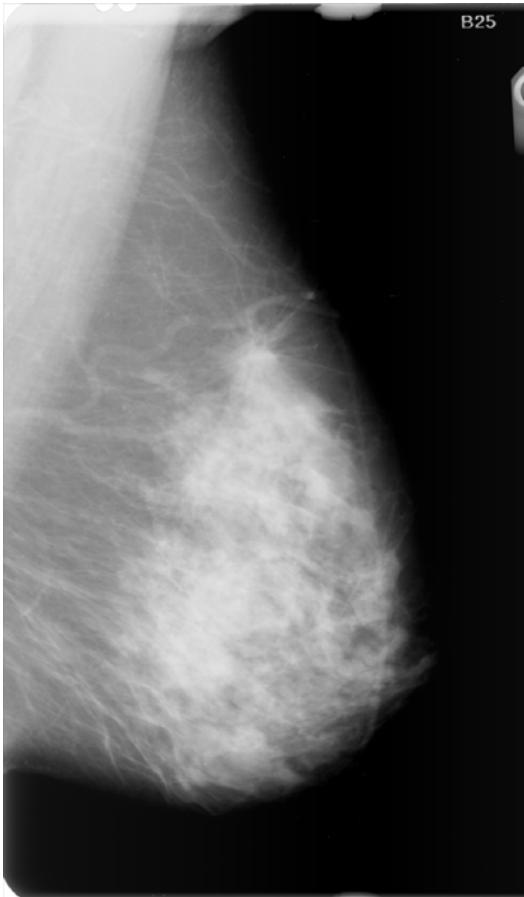
# Results

- 19 cases of architectural distortion
- 41 normal control mammograms (MIAS)
- Symmetric matrix  $A$ : node and saddle only
- Condition number of  $A > 3$ : reject result
- *Sensitivity: 84% at 4.5 false positives/image*
- *Sensitivity: 95% at 9.9 false positives/image*

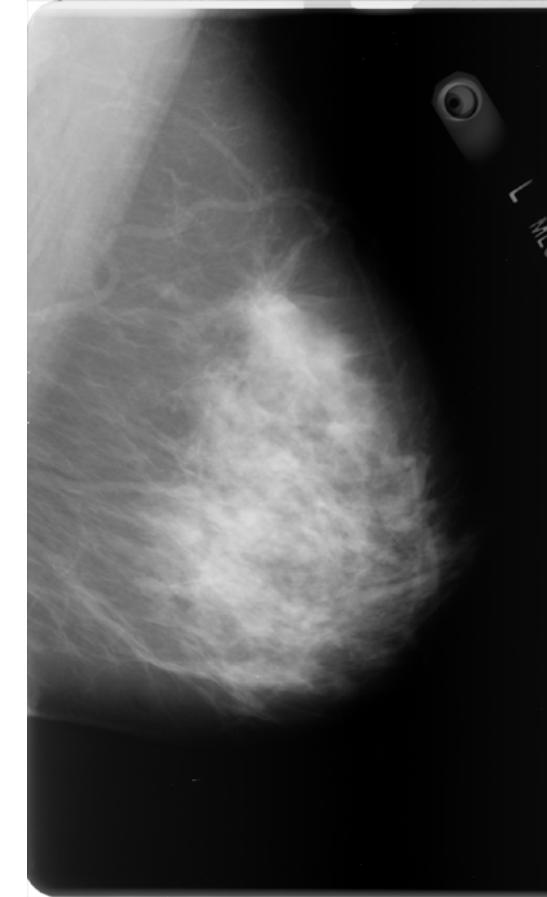


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# Prior mammograms



*Detection mammogram 1997*

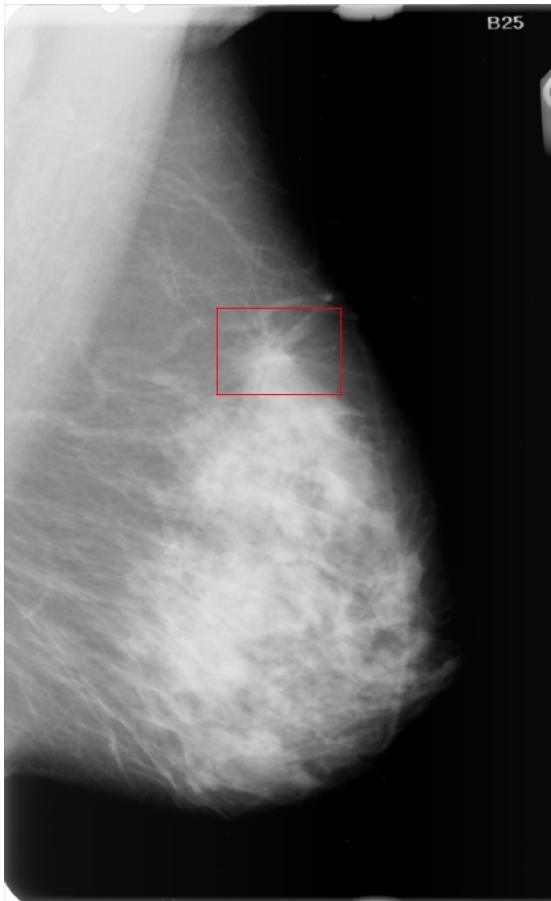


*Prior mammogram 1996*

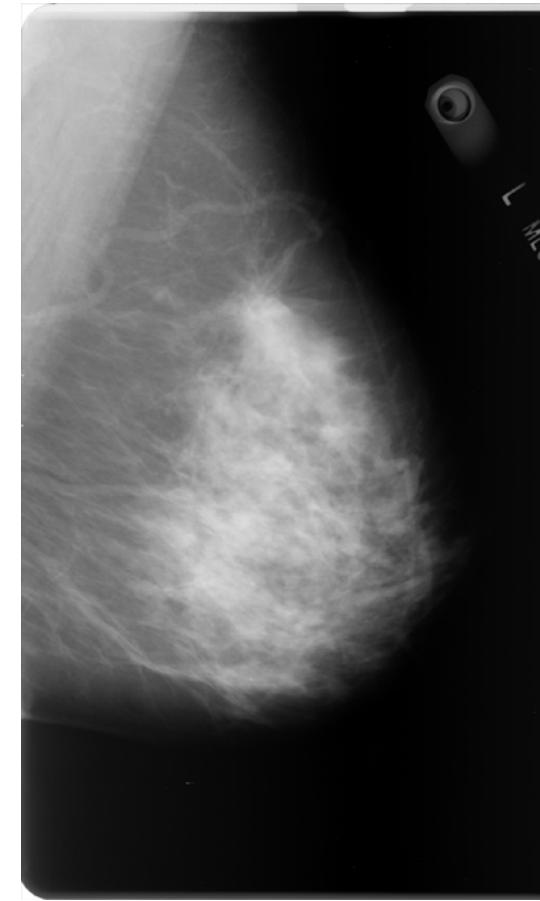


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# Prior mammograms



*Detection mammogram 1997*

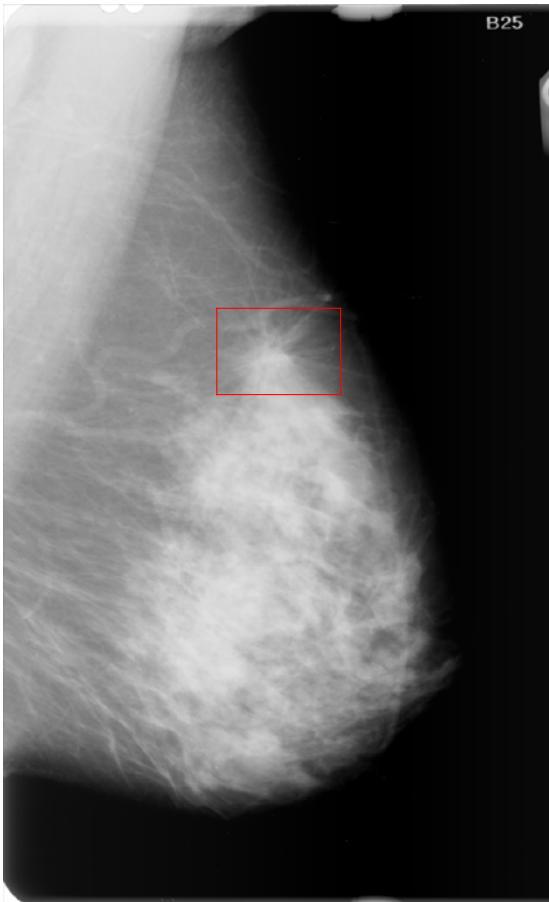


*Prior mammogram 1996*

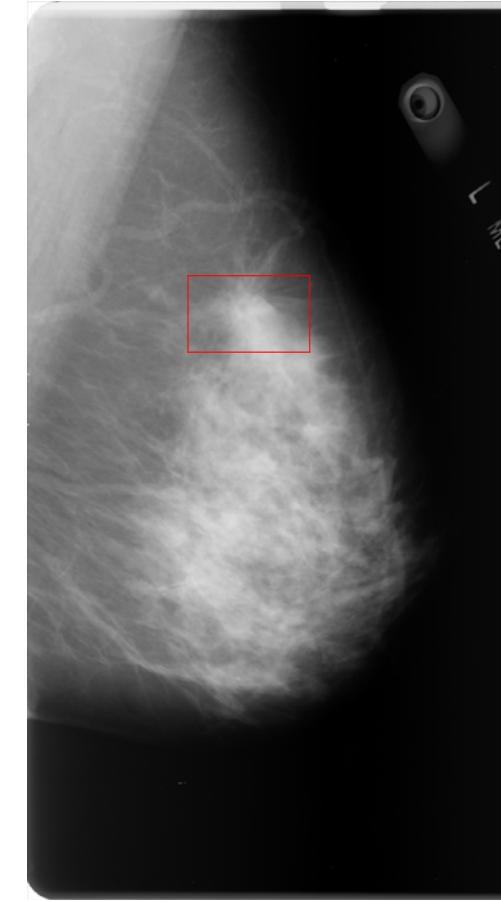


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# Prior mammograms



*Detection mammogram 1997*



*Prior mammogram 1996*



# Interval cancer

- ❖ Breast cancer detected outside the screening program in the interval between scheduled screening sessions
- ❖ “Diagnostic mammograms” not available



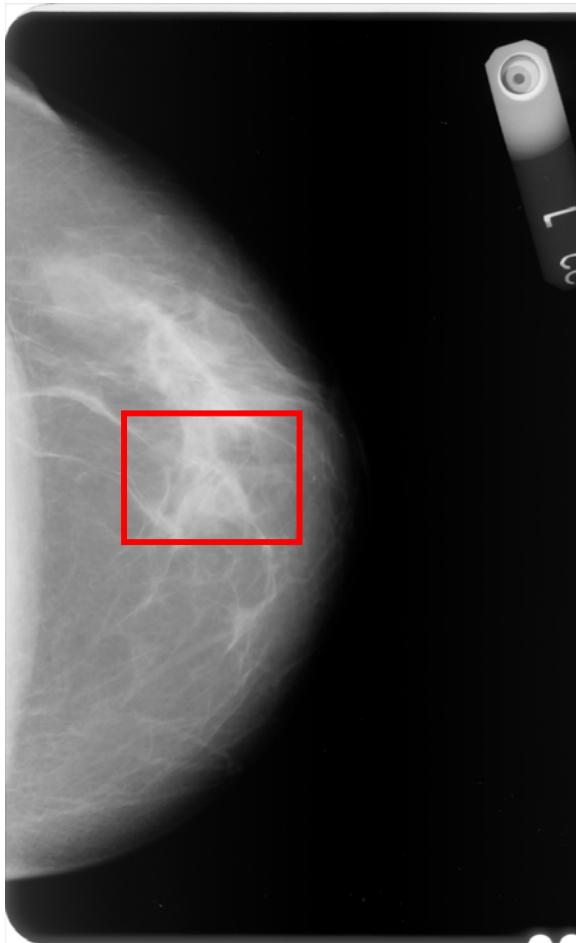
# Dataset

- ❖ 106 prior mammographic images of 56 individuals diagnosed with breast cancer (interval-cancer cases)
- ❖ Time interval between prior and detection (33 cases)  
average: 15 months, standard deviation: 7 months  
minimum: 1 month, maximum: 24 months
- ❖ 52 mammographic images of 13 normal individuals
- ❖ Normal control cases selected represent the penultimate screening visits at the time of preparation of the database

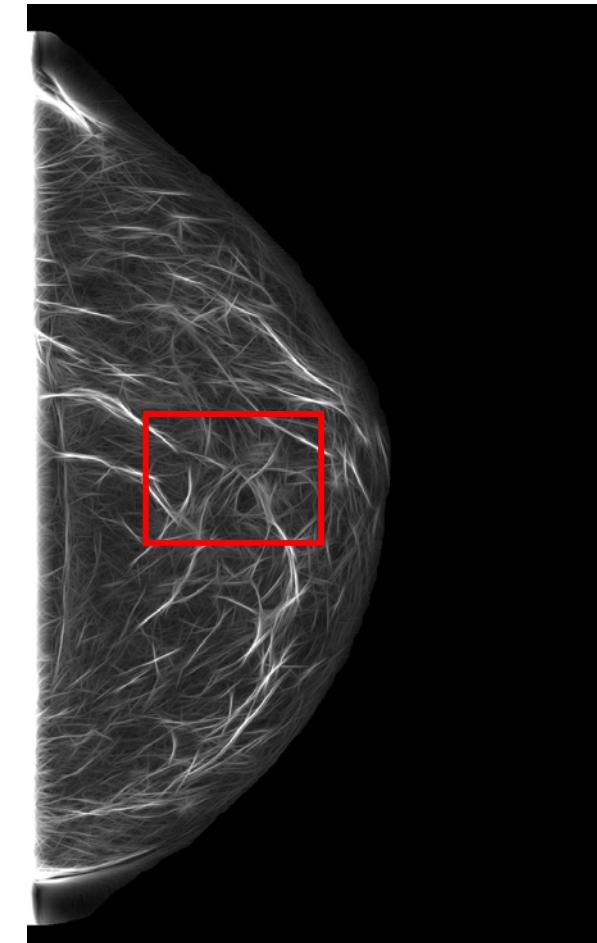


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# Interval cancer: site of architectural distortion



*Mammogram*

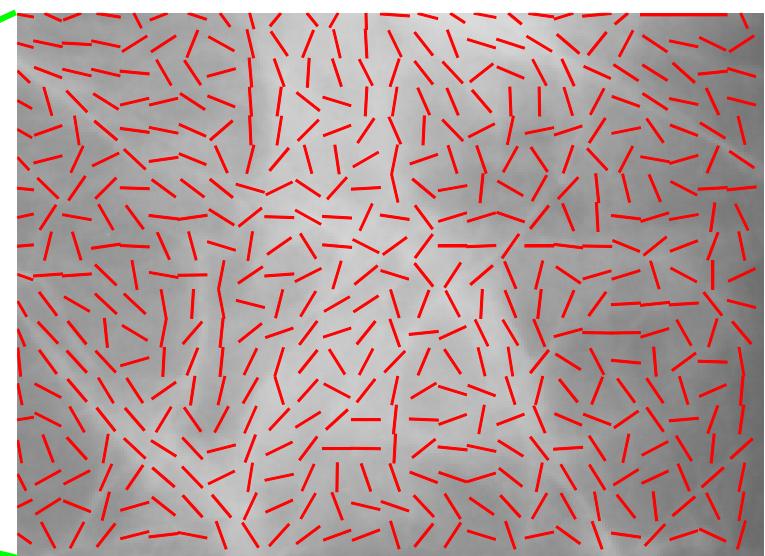
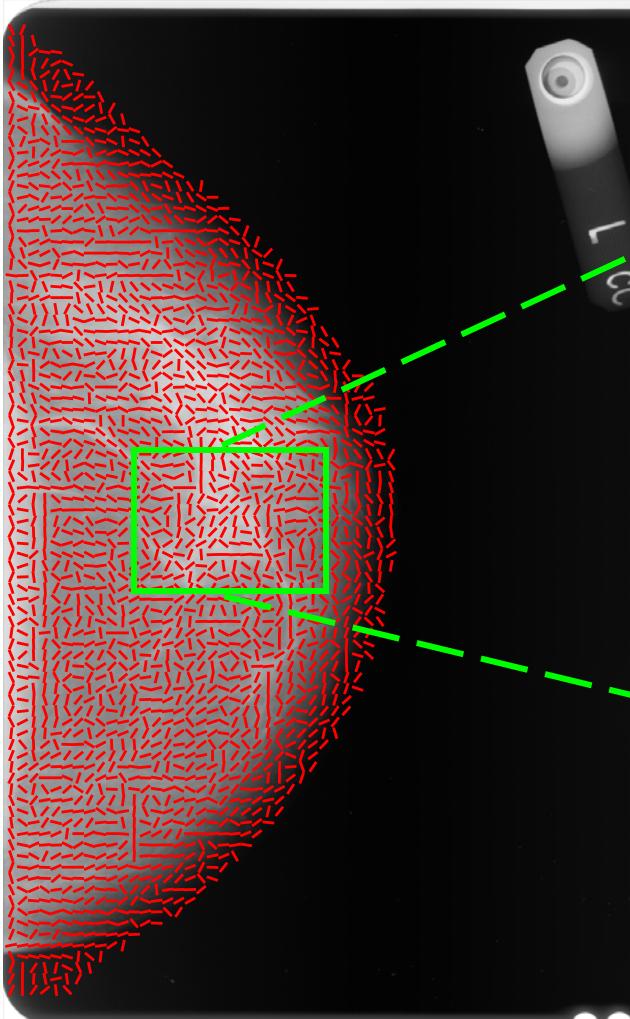


*Gabor Magnitude*



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# Interval cancer: site of architectural distortion

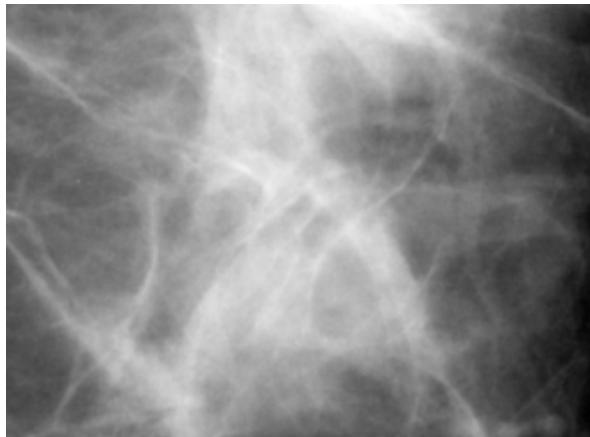


*Orientation field*

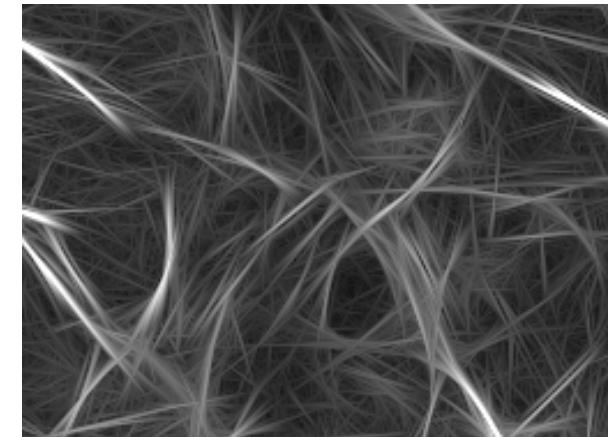


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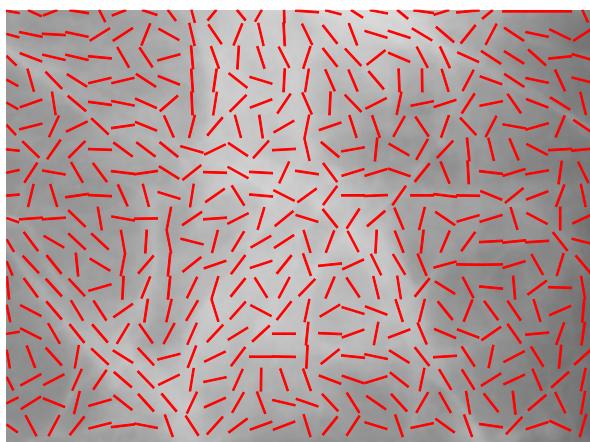
# Site of architectural distortion



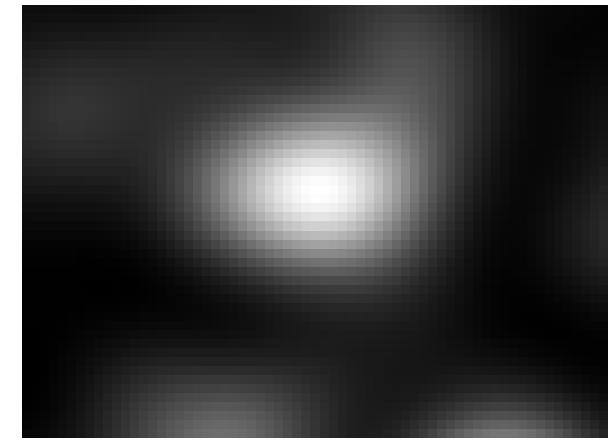
*Mammogram*



*Gabor magnitude*



*Orientation field*

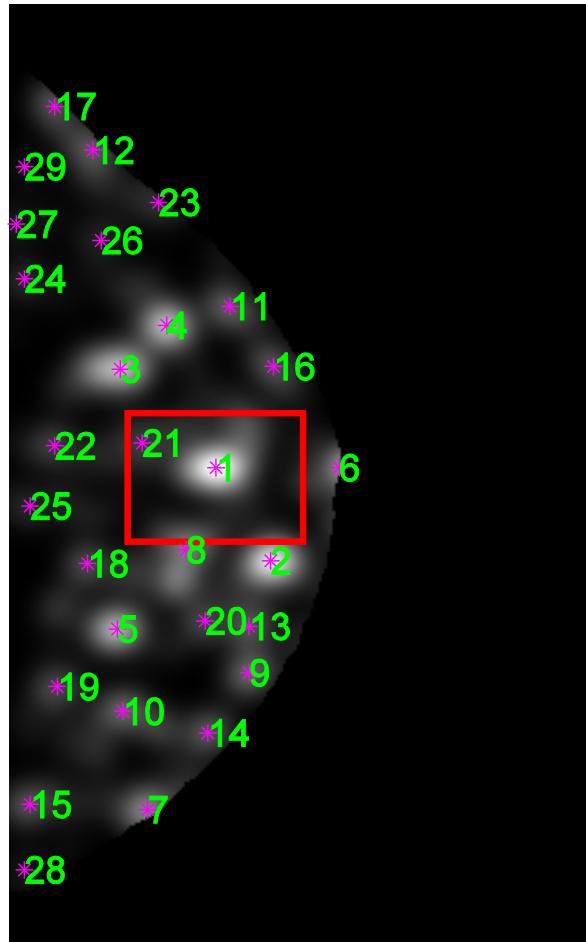


*Node map*

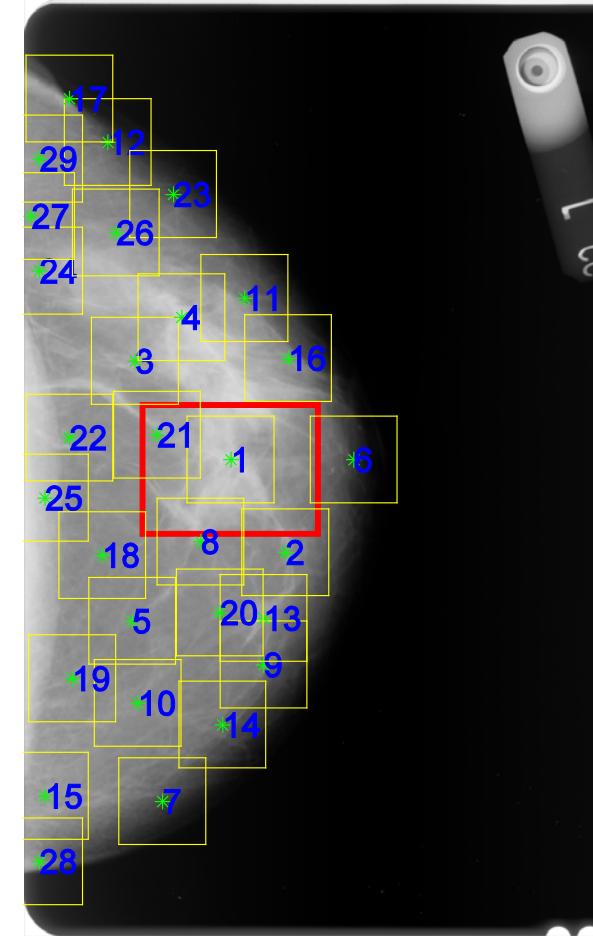


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# Interval cancer: potential sites of architectural distortion



*Node map*



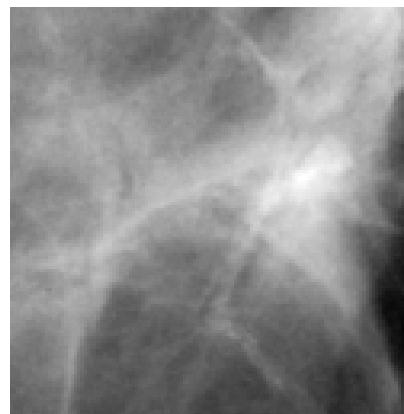
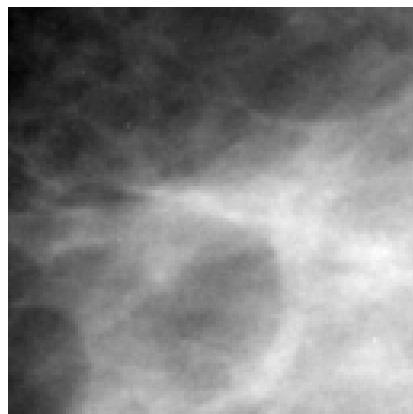
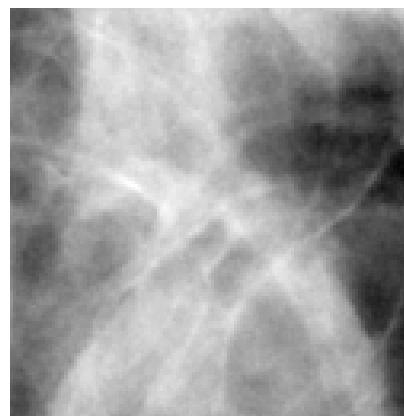
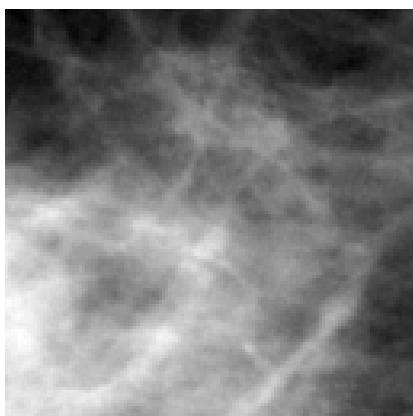
*Automatically detected ROIs*



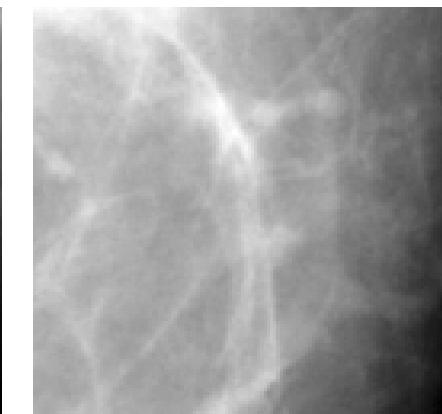
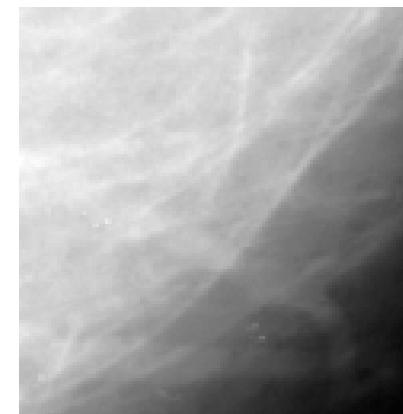
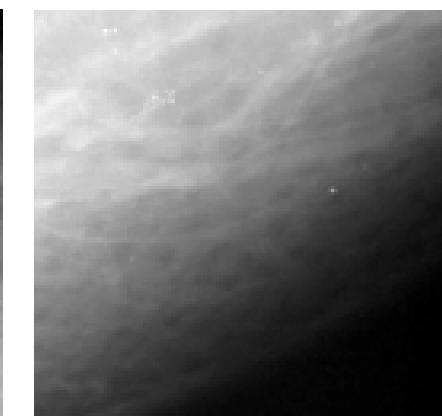
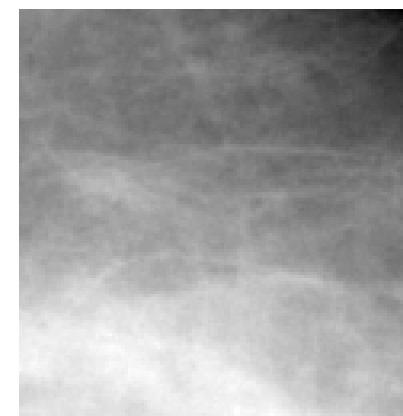
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# Examples of detected ROIs

*True-positive*



*False-positive*



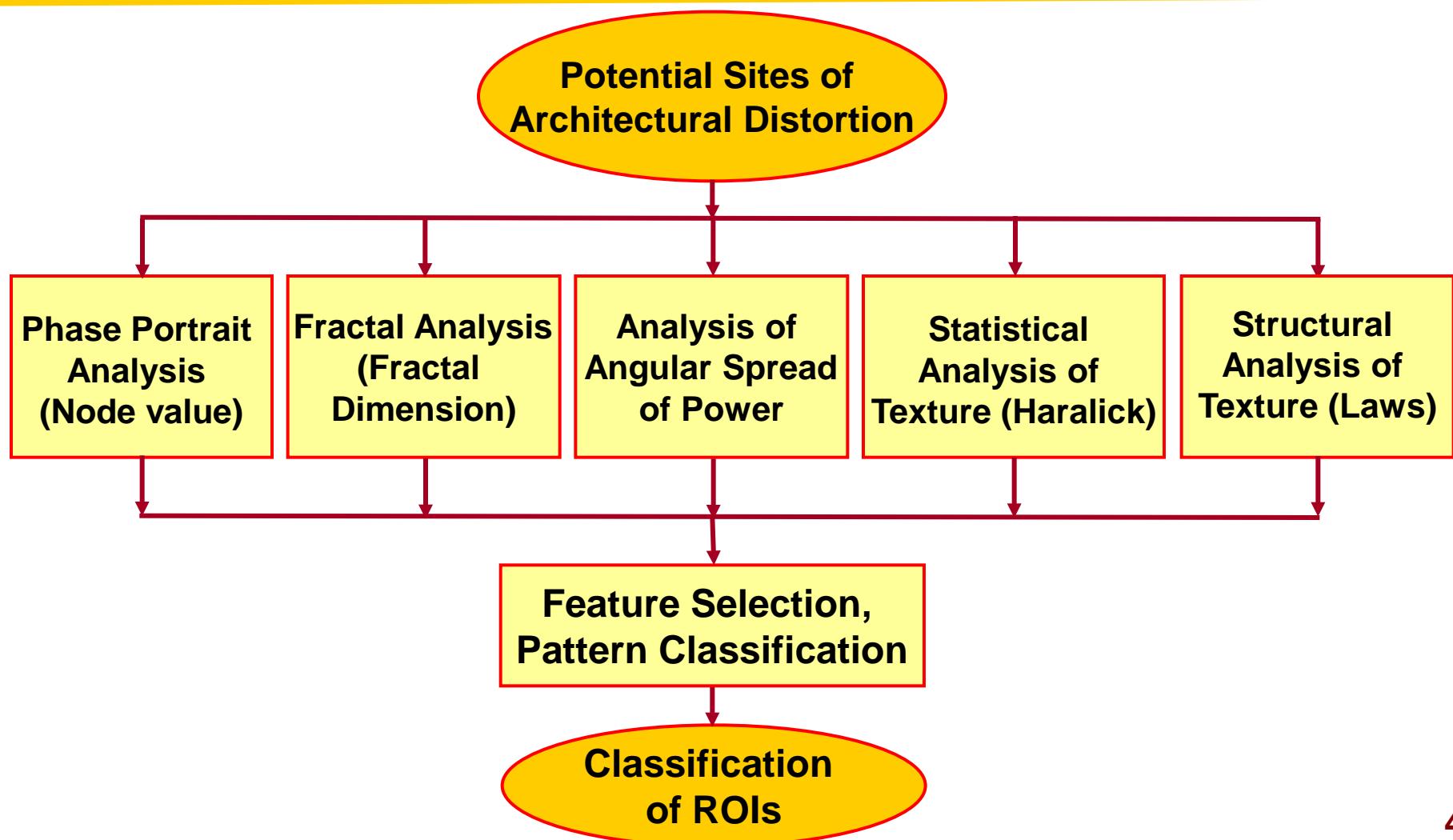


# Automatically detected ROIs

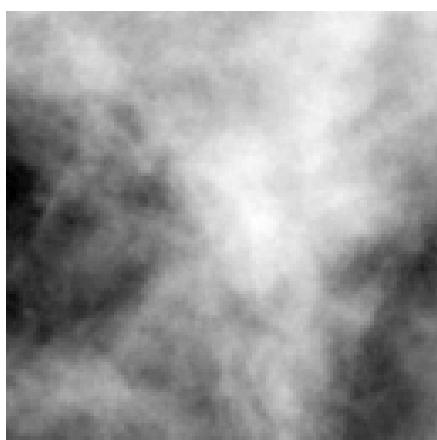
| Data Set   | No. of Images | No. of ROIs<br>128 x 128<br>pixels at 200<br>μm/pixel | No. of True-Positive ROIs | No. of False-Positive ROIs |
|--|---------------|---|---------------------------|----------------------------|
| Prior mammograms<br>of 56 interval-cancer<br>cases | 106           | 2821  | 301                       | 2520                       |
| Penultimate<br>mammograms of 13<br>normal cases    | 52            | 1403  | 0                         | 1403                       |
| Total  | 158           | 4224  | 301                       | 3923                       |



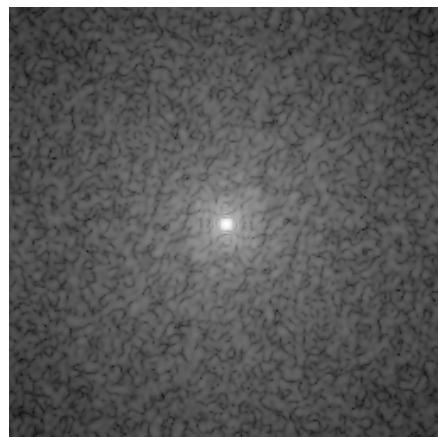
# Feature extraction from ROIs



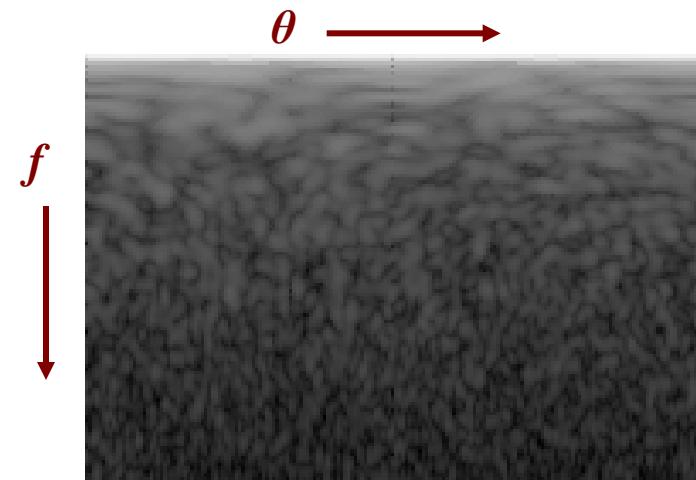
# Fractal and spectral analysis



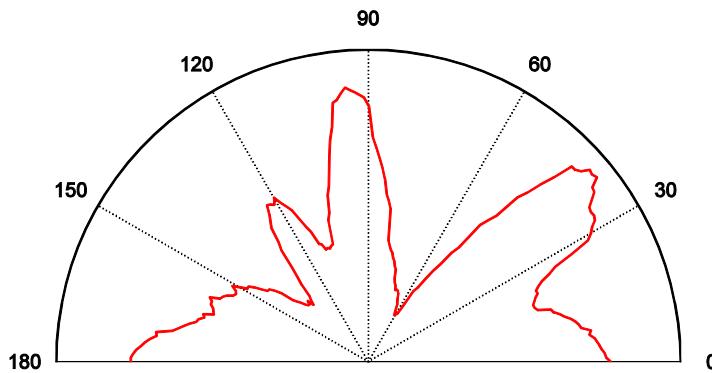
TP ROI,  $s(x, y)$



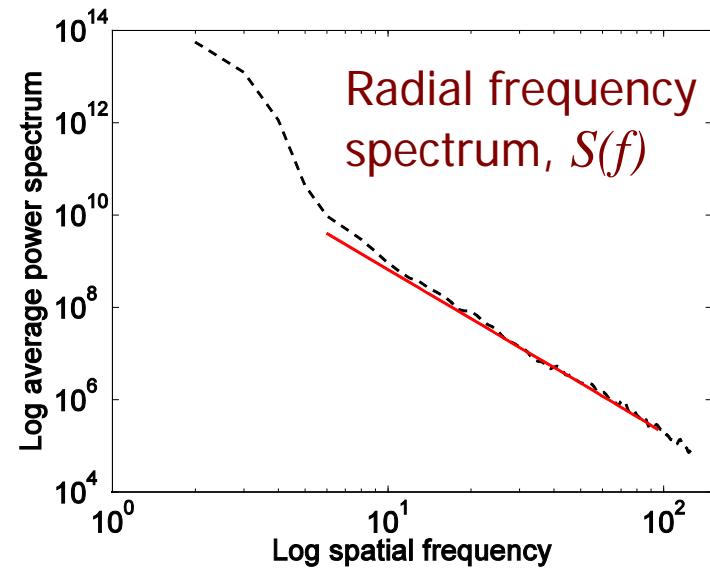
Fourier power spectrum,  $S(u, v)$



Power spectrum in polar coordinates,  $S(f, \theta)$



Angular spread of power,  $S(\theta)$





# Laws' texture energy measures

- ❖ Operators of length five pixels may be generated by convolving the basic L3, E3, and S3 operators:

$$\begin{aligned}& \triangleright L5 = L3 * L3 = [ \begin{array}{ccccc} 1 & 4 & 6 & 4 & 1 \end{array}] \quad (\text{local average}) \\& \triangleright E5 = L3 * E3 = [ \begin{array}{ccccc} -1 & -2 & 0 & 2 & 1 \end{array}] \quad (\text{edges}) \\& \triangleright S5 = -E3 * E3 = [ \begin{array}{ccccc} -1 & 0 & 2 & 0 & -1 \end{array}] \quad (\text{spots}) \\& \triangleright R5 = -S3 * S3 = [ \begin{array}{ccccc} 1 & -4 & 6 & -4 & 1 \end{array}] \quad (\text{ripples}) \\& \triangleright W5 = -E3 * S3 = [ \begin{array}{ccccc} -1 & 2 & 0 & -2 & 1 \end{array}] \quad (\text{waves})\end{aligned}$$

- ❖ 2D  $5 \times 5$  convolution operators:

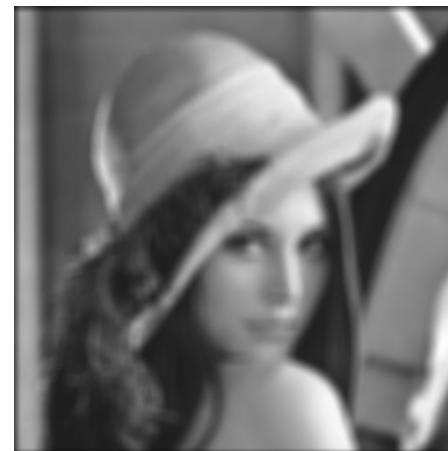
$$\begin{aligned}& \triangleright L5L5 = L5^T L5 \\& \triangleright W5W5 = W5^T W5 \\& \triangleright R5R5 = R5^T R5 \text{ etc.}\end{aligned}$$



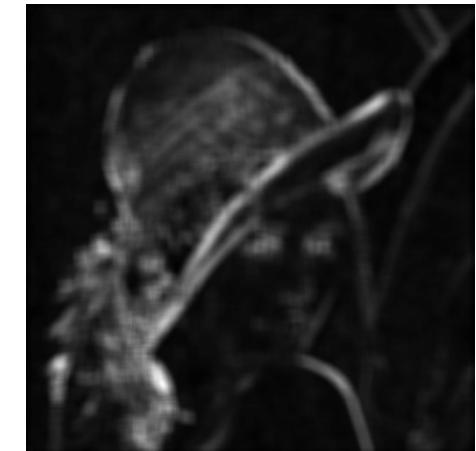
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# Laws' texture energy

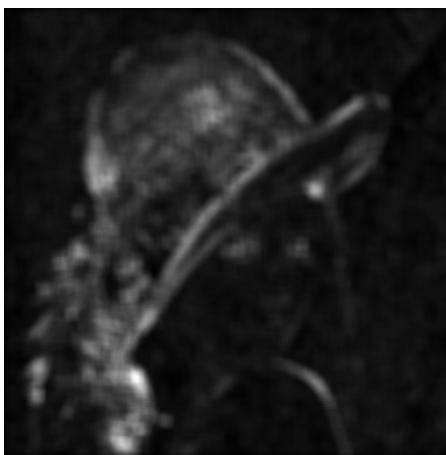
Sum of the  
absolute values  
in the filtered  
images in a  
 $15 \times 15$  window



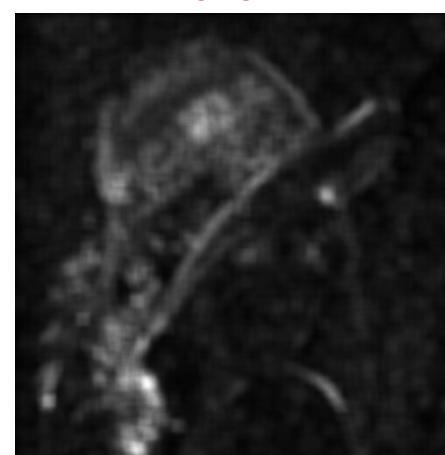
*L5L5*



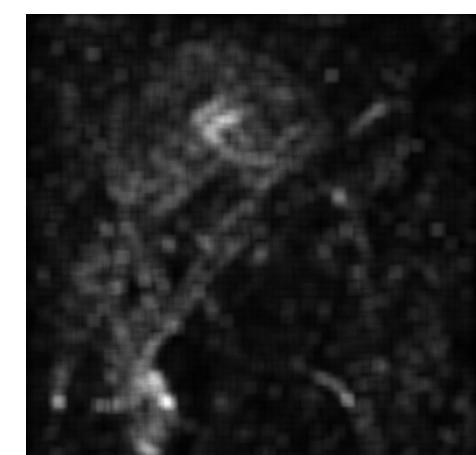
*E5E5*



*S5S5*



*W5W5*



*R5R5*

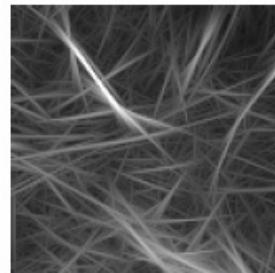


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# Geometrical transformation for Laws' feature extraction



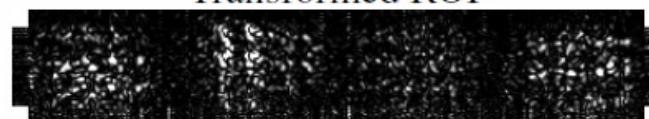
A TP ROI



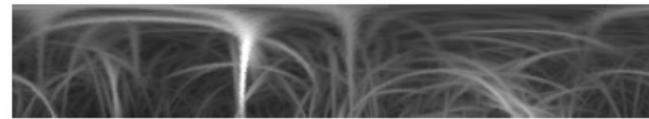
Gabor magnitude



Transformed ROI



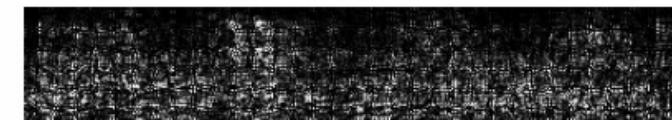
R5R5



Transformed Gabor magnitude



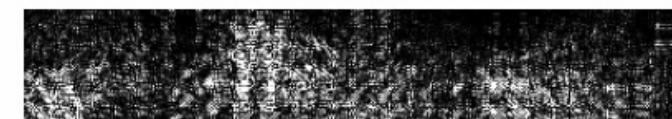
R5R5



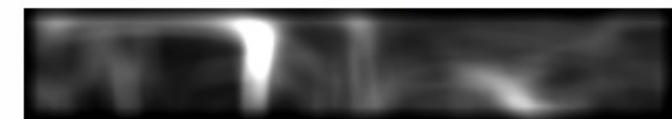
W5W5



L5L5



W5W5

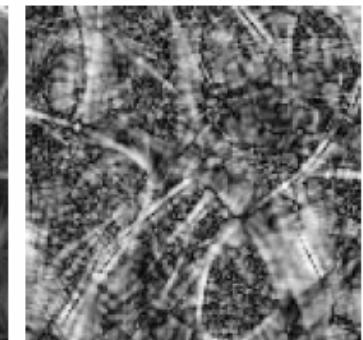
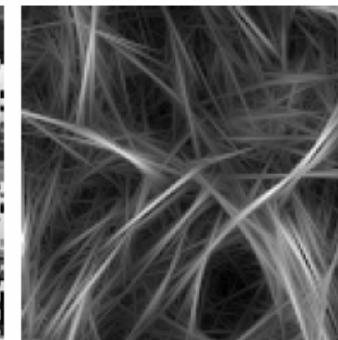
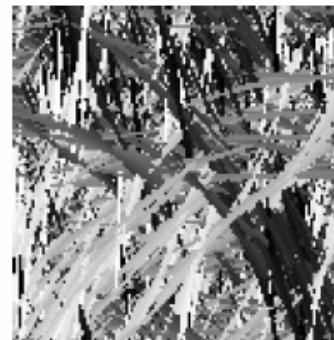
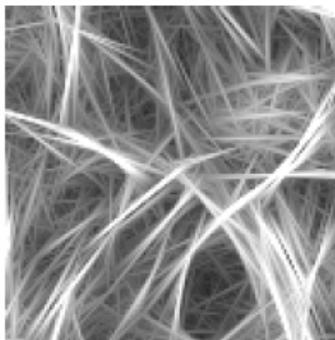
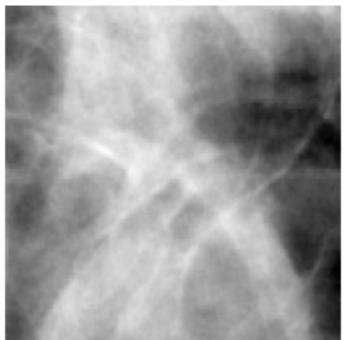


L5L5

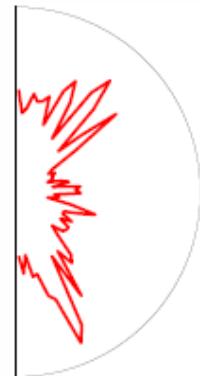


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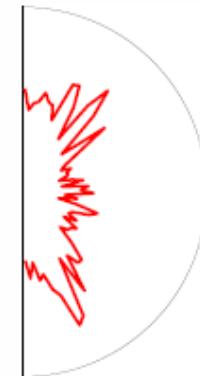
# Analysis of angular spread: True-positive ROI



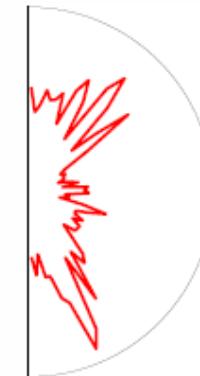
*Frequency  
domain*



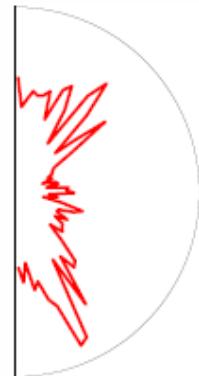
*Gabor  
magnitude*



*Gabor  
orientation*



*Coherence*

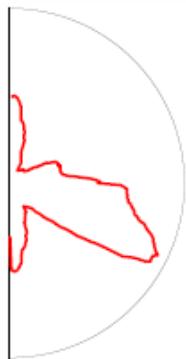
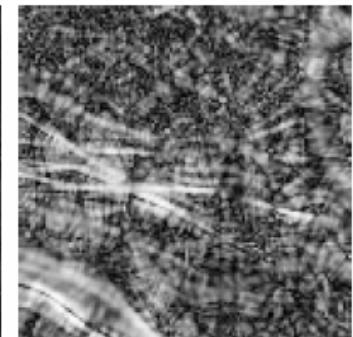
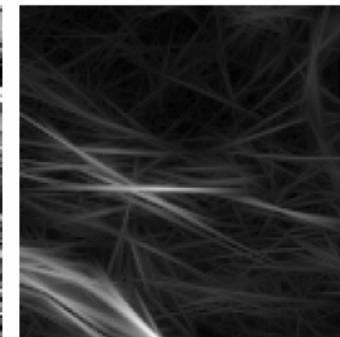
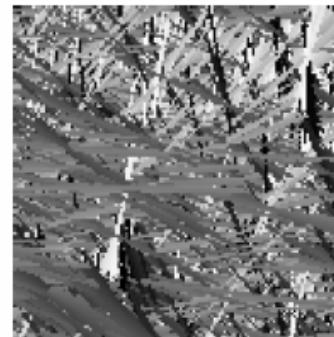
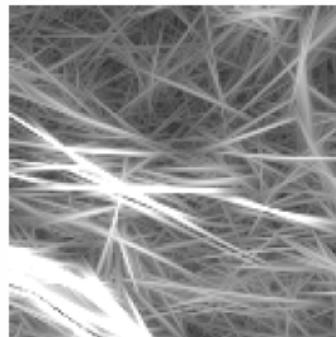
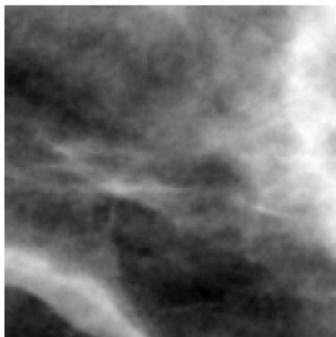


*Orientation  
strength*



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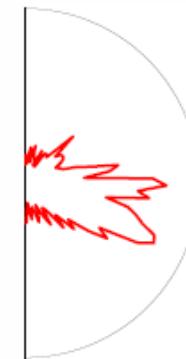
# Analysis of angular spread: False-positive ROI



*Frequency  
domain*



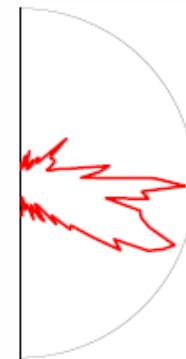
*Gabor  
magnitude*



*Gabor  
orientation*



*Coherence*



*Orientation  
strength*



# Results with selected features

| Classifiers   | AUC using the selected features with stepwise logistic regression |
|---|---|
| FLDA (Leave-one-ROI-out)                              | 0.75  |
| Bayesian (Leave-one-ROI-out)                          | 0.76  |
| SLFF-NN (Single-layer feed forward: tangent-sigmoid)  | 0.78  |
| SLFF-NN* (Single-layer feed forward: tangent-sigmoid) | <b>0.78</b> ± 0.02  |

\* Two-fold random subsampling, repeated 100 times

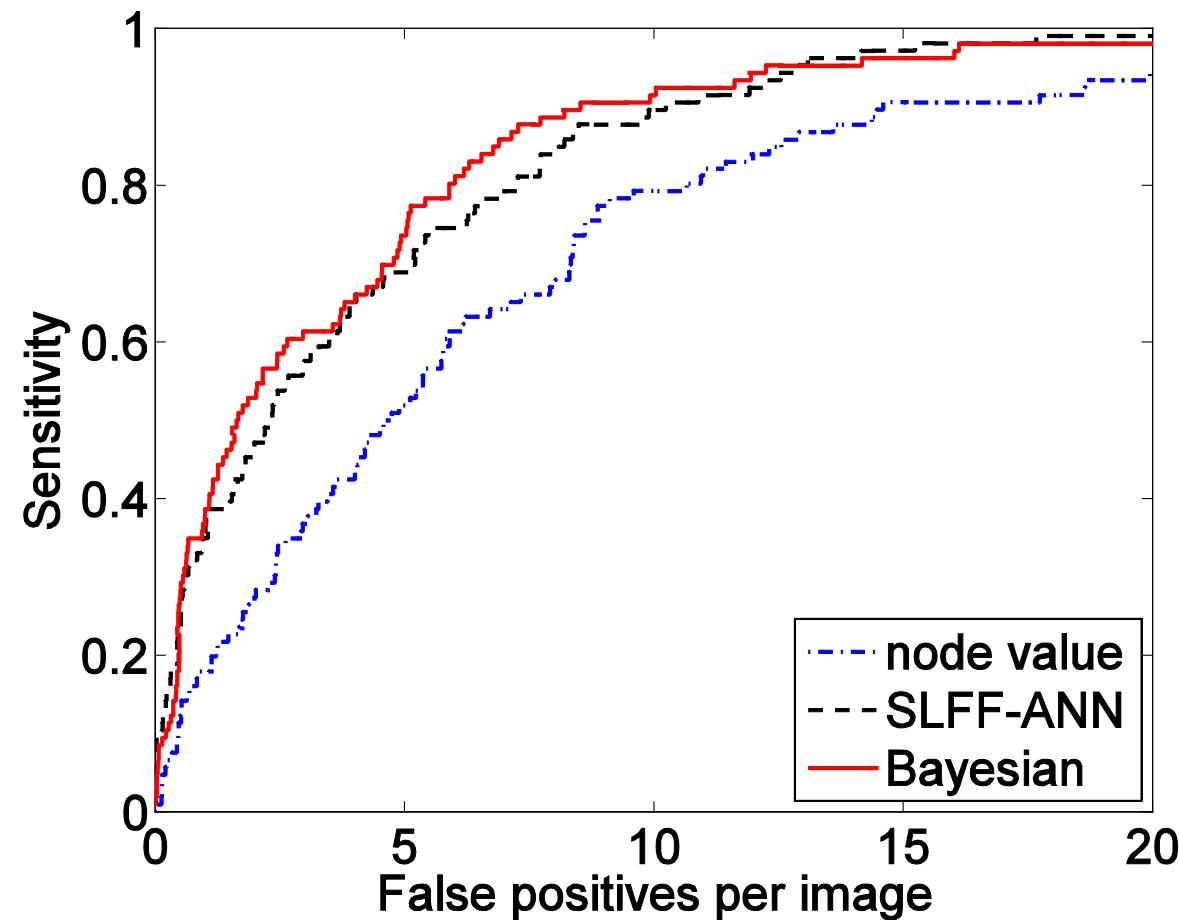


# Free-response ROC

Sensitivity

80% at 5.8 FP/image  
90% at 8.1 FP/image

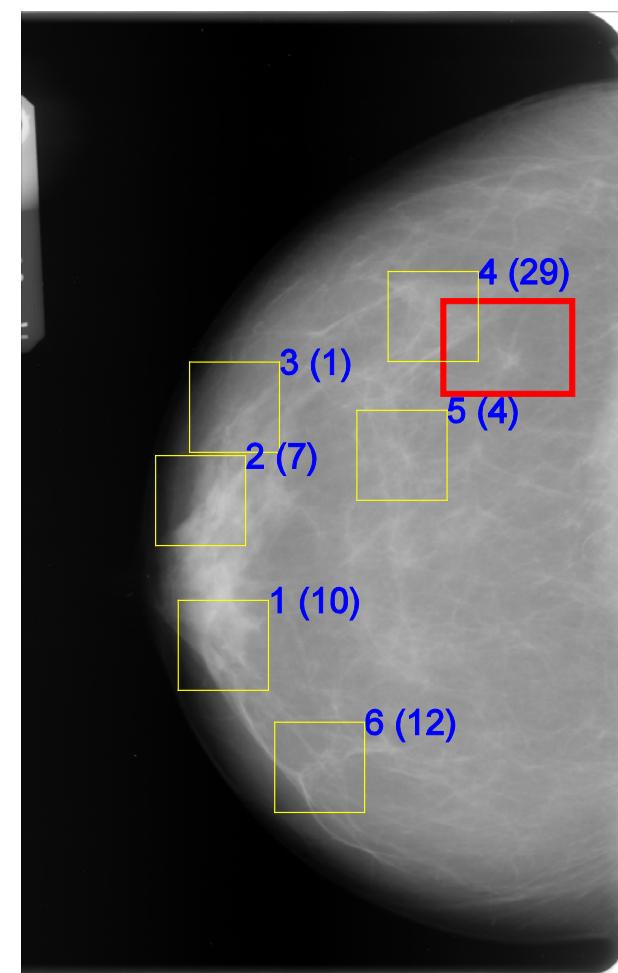
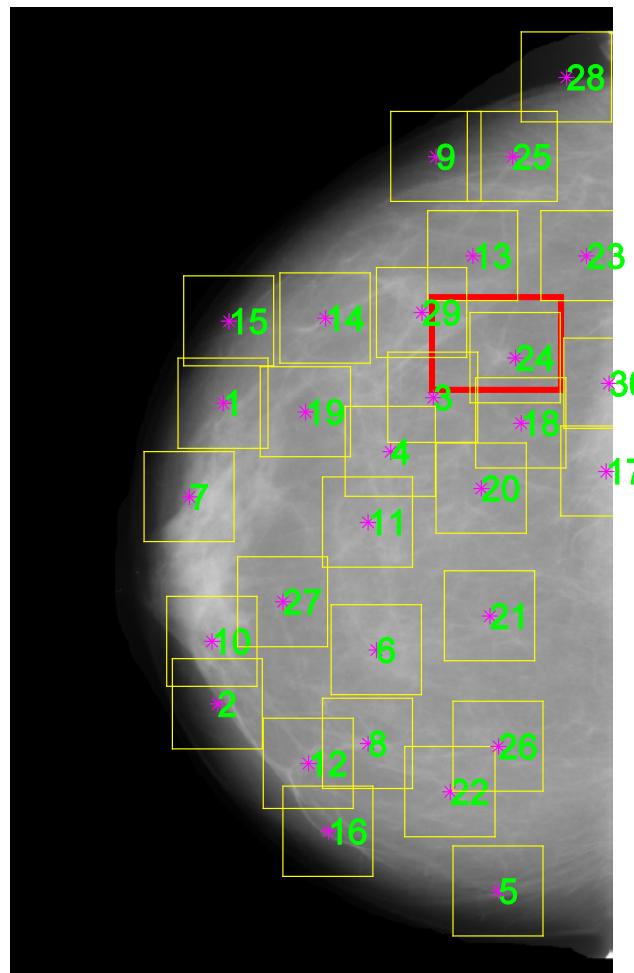
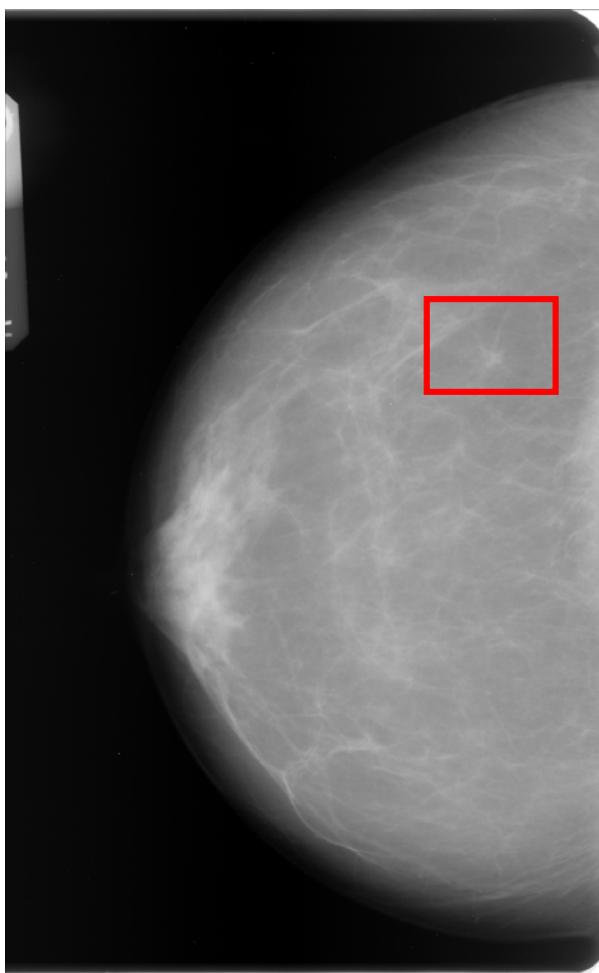
using features selected with stepwise logistic regression, the Bayesian classifier, and the leave-one-image out method





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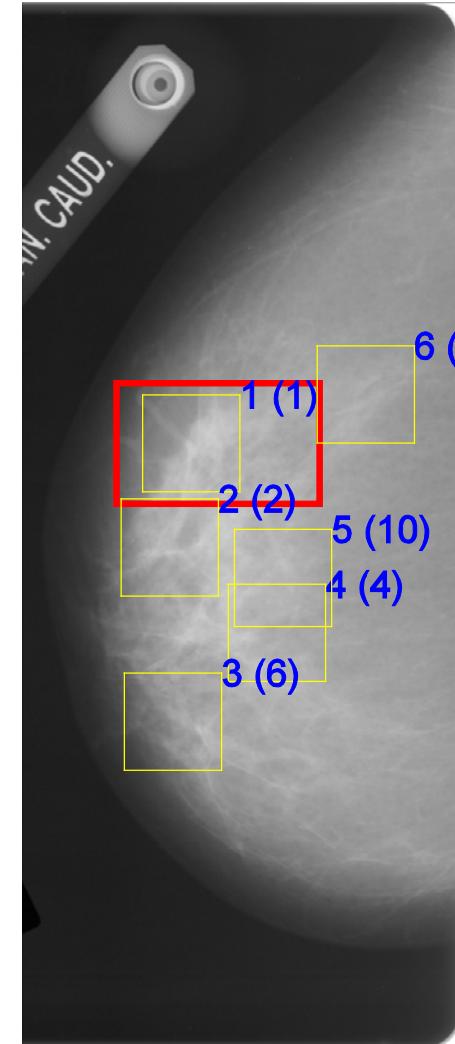
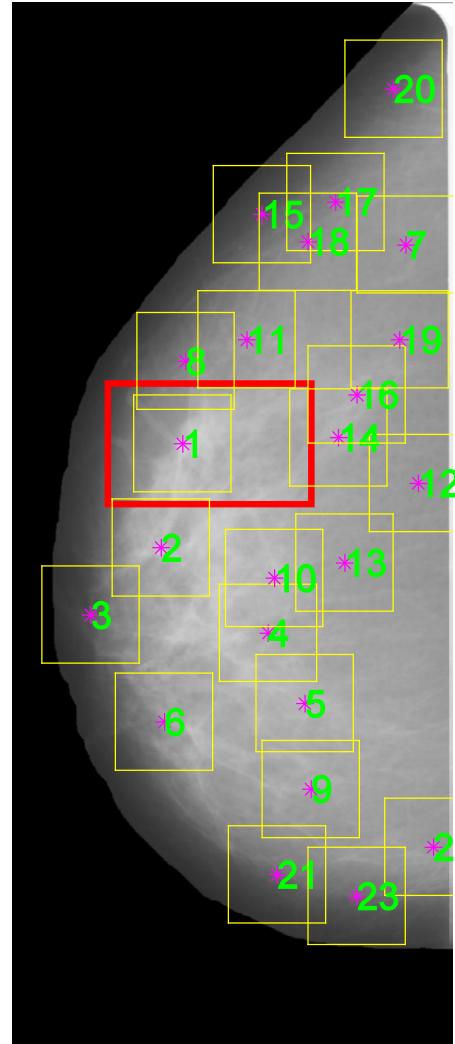
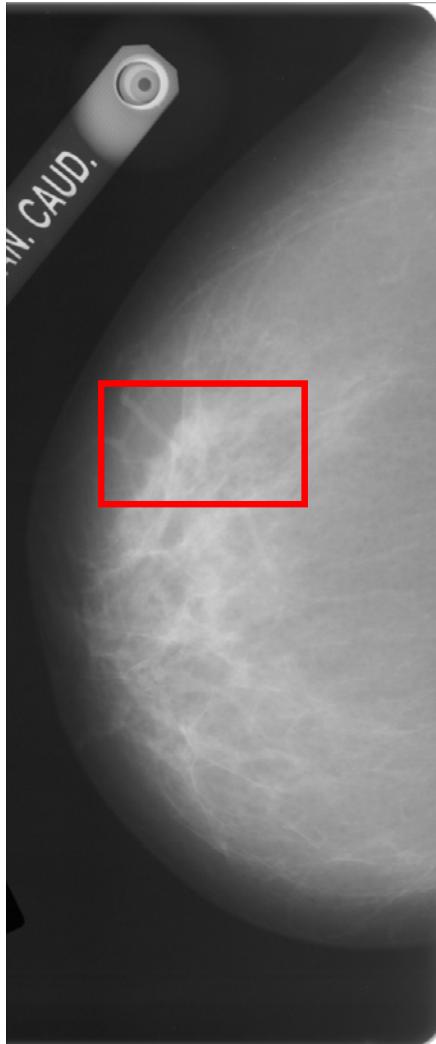
# Bayesian ranking of ROIs: unsuccessful case





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# Bayesian ranking of ROIs: successful detection





# Geometrical analysis of spicules and Gabor angle response

Index of convergence of spicules

$$\text{ICS} = \sum_{i=1}^P \sum_{j=1}^Q M(i, j) | \cos[\theta(i, j) - \alpha(i, j)] |$$

$P \times Q$ : size of the ROI

$\theta(i, j)$ : Gabor angle response within the range  $[-89^\circ, 90^\circ]$

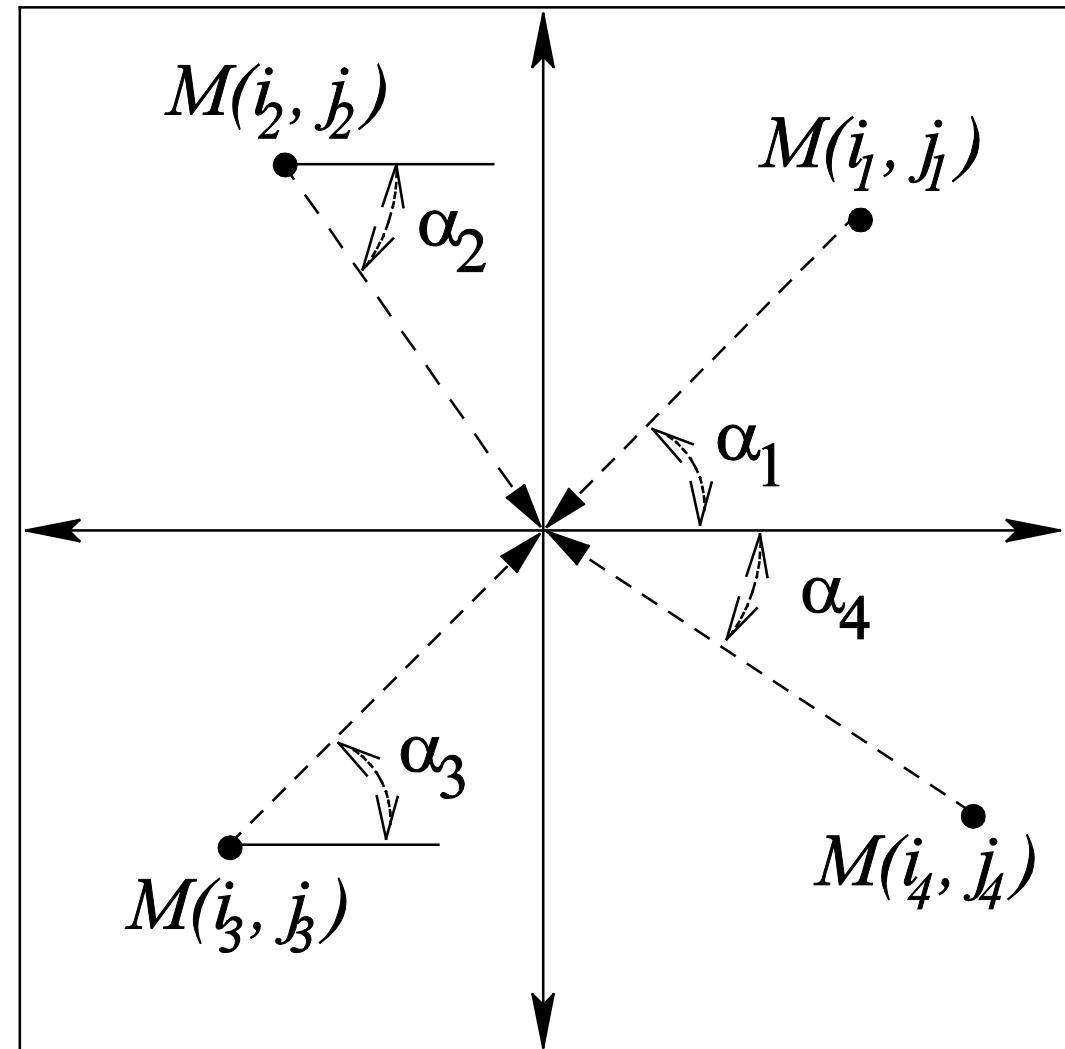
$M(i, j)$ : Gabor magnitude response

$\alpha(i, j)$ : angle of a pixel with respect to the horizontal toward the center of ROI, in the range  $[-89^\circ, 90^\circ]$



# Index of convergence of spicules

ICS quantifies the degree of alignment of each pixel toward the center of the ROI weighted by the Gabor magnitude response



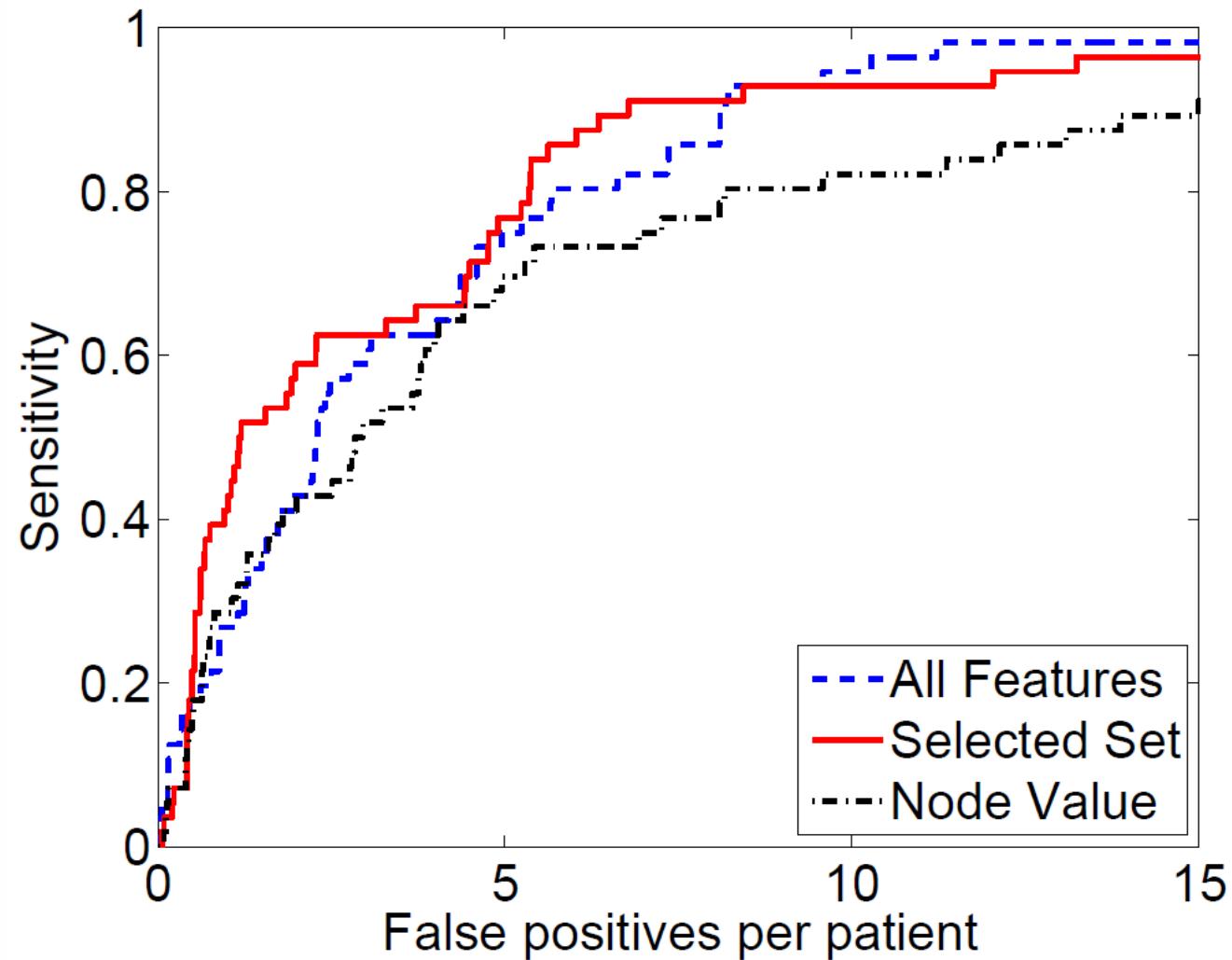


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# FROC analysis

Sensitivity  
80%  
5.3 FP/patient

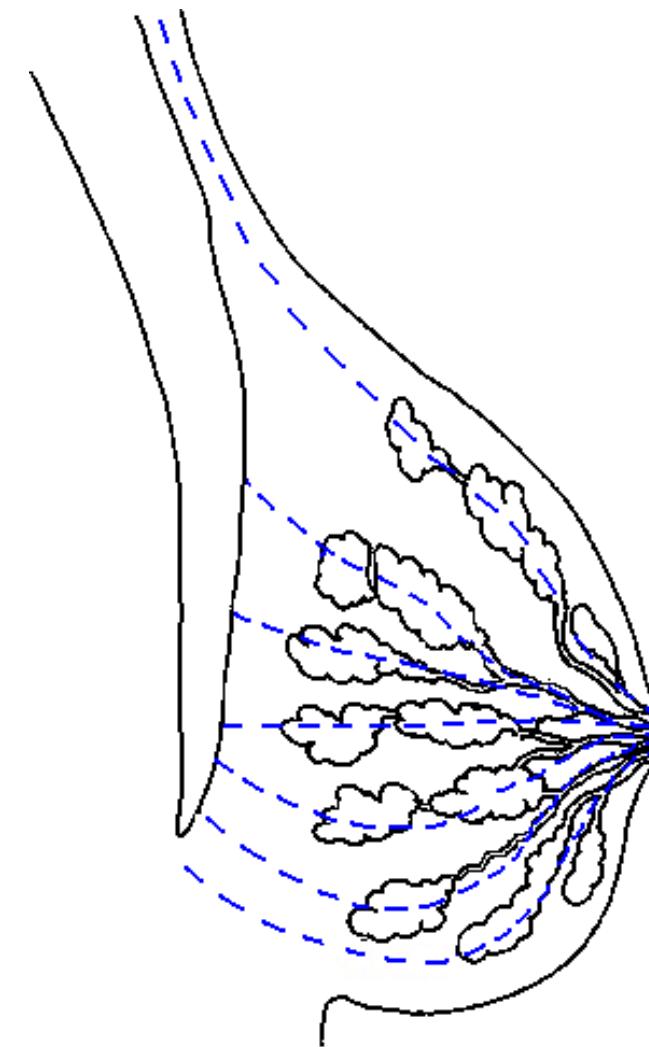
90%  
6.3 FP/patient





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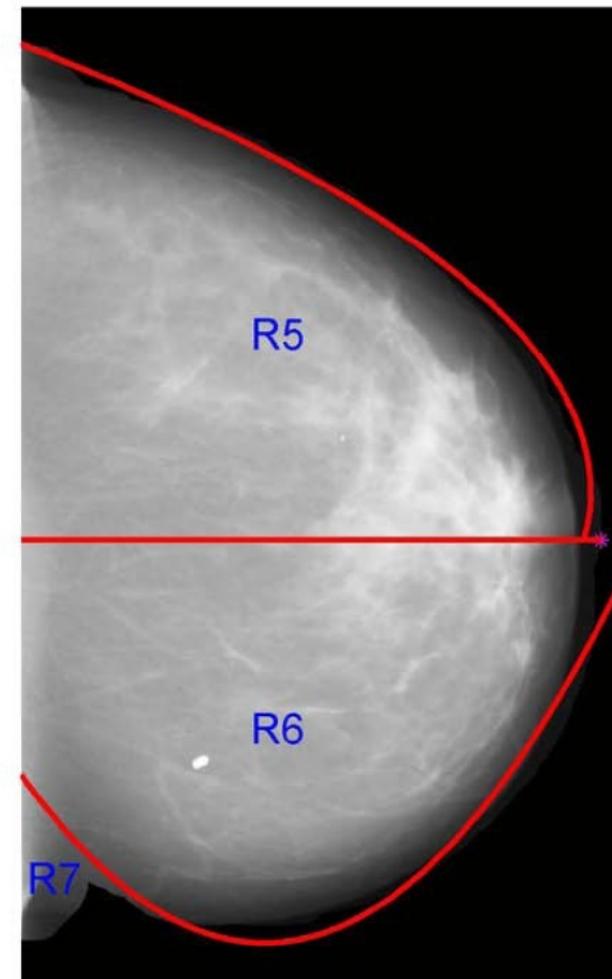
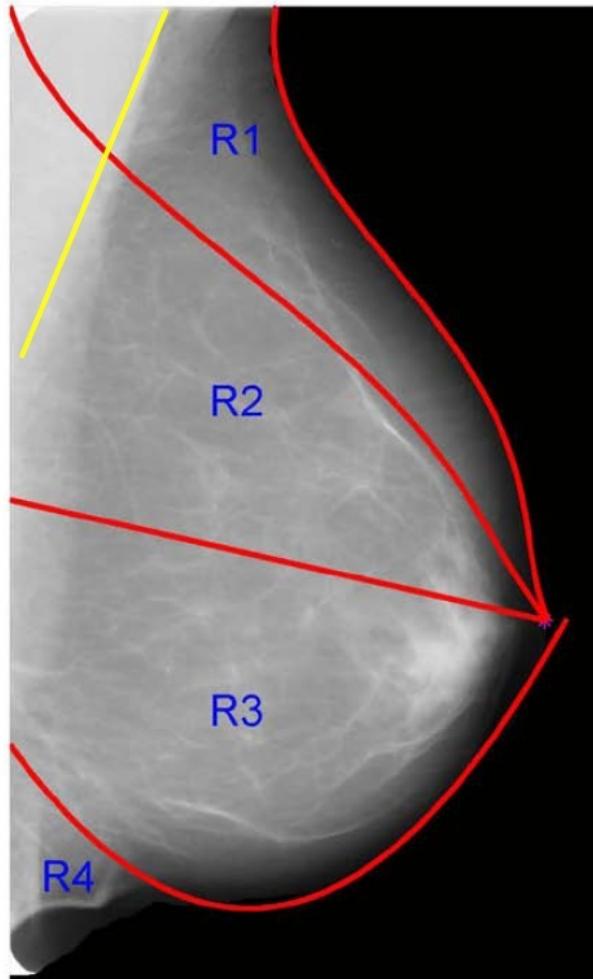
# Expected loci of breast tissue





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# Landmarking of mammograms: breast boundary, pectoral muscle, nipple

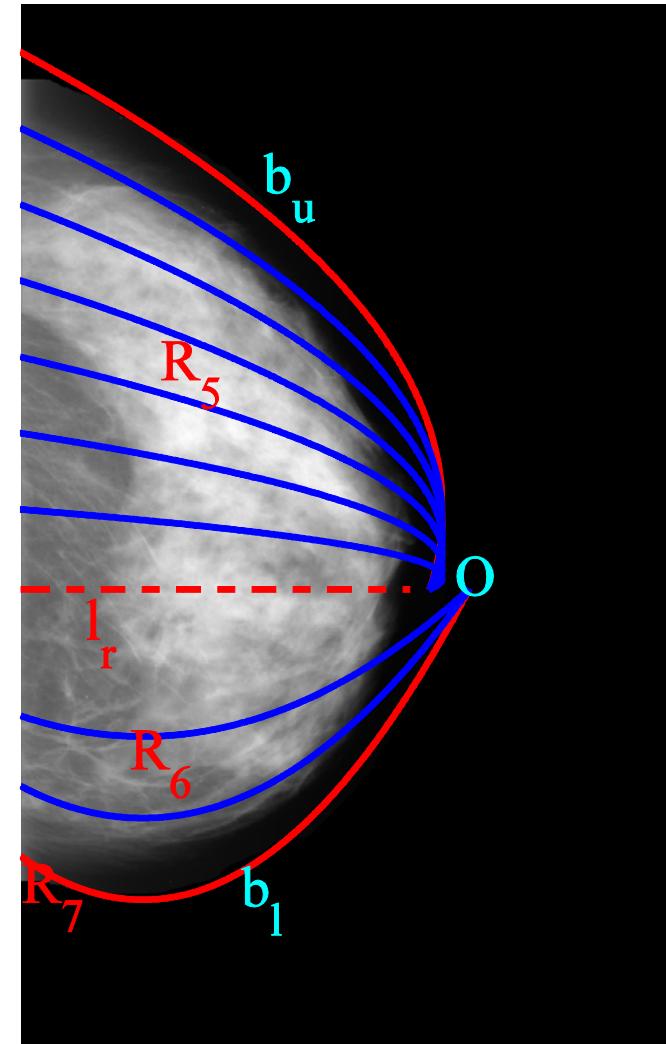
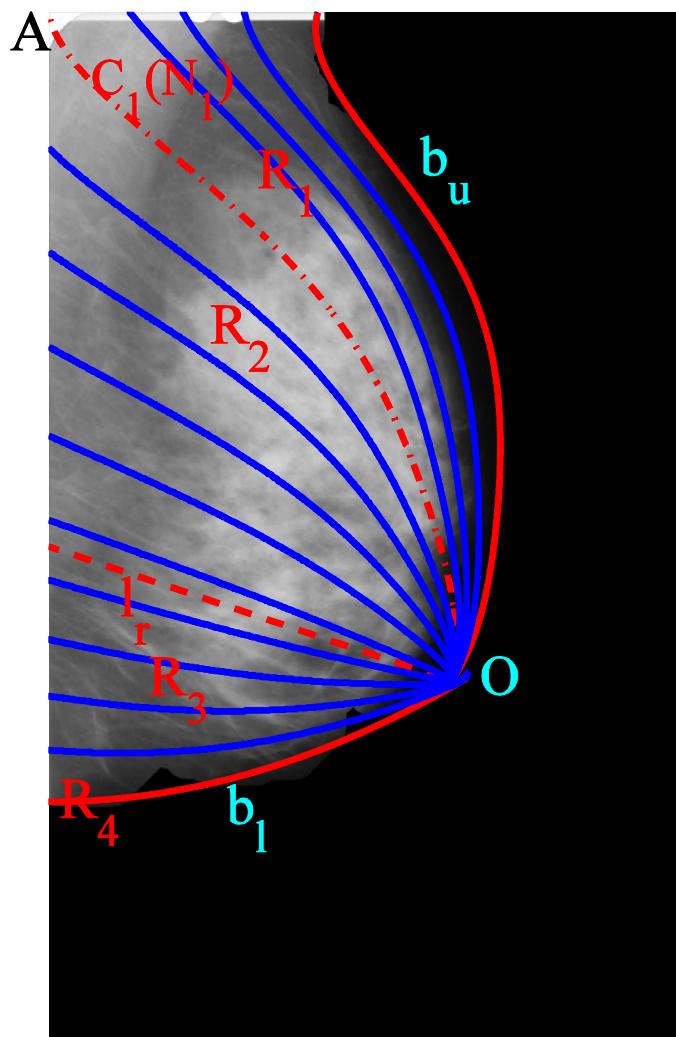


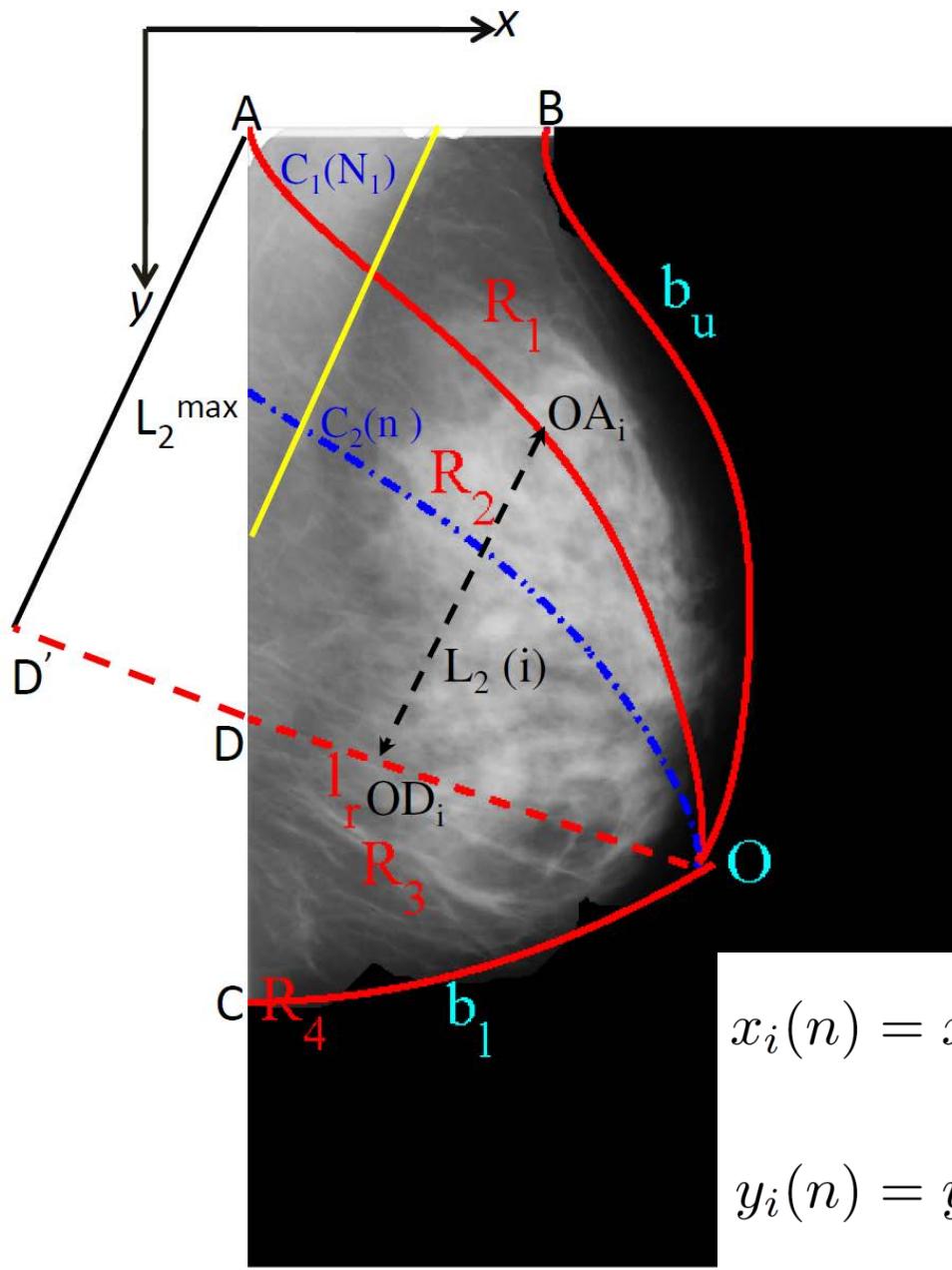
*Second- and fifth-order polynomials fitted to parts of breast boundary*



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# Derivation of expected loci of breast tissue: interpolation





Number of points in curve =  $M$

$L_i = \perp$  length between two curves at the  $i$ -th point

$$L_{max} = max(L_i)$$

Number of curves =  $N = L_{max} + 1$

Distance at  $i$ -th point =  $L_i / L_{max}$   
 $= L_i / (N-1)$

$i$ -th point of  $n$ -th curve:

$$x_i(n) = x_i(1) - [x_i(1) - x_i(N_2)] \left( \frac{n-1}{N_2-1} \right)$$

$$y_i(n) = y_i(1) - [y_i(1) - y_i(N_2)] \left( \frac{n-1}{N_2-1} \right)$$



# Divergence with respect to the expected loci of breast tissue

$$\gamma(i, j) = \frac{\sum_{m=1}^L \sum_{n=1}^L |M(m, n) \cos[\theta(m, n) - \phi(i, j)]|}{\sum_{m=1}^L \sum_{n=1}^L M(m, n)}$$

$M$ : Gabor magnitude response

$\theta$ : Gabor angle response

$\phi$ : expected orientation of breast tissue

$L$ : 25 pixels at 200  $\mu\text{m}/\text{pixel}$

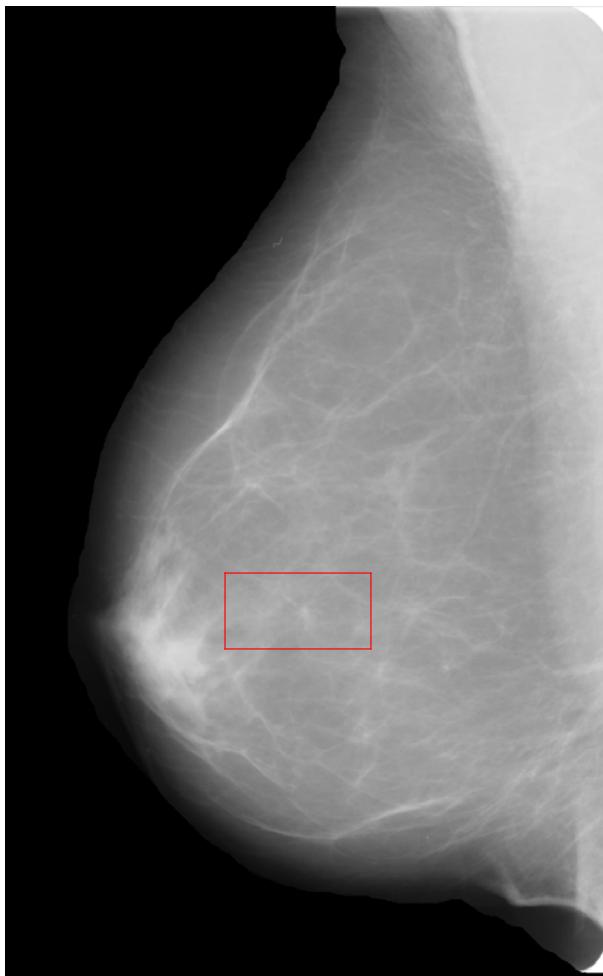
180 Gabor filters used over [-90, 90] degrees

$$D(i, j) = 1 - \gamma(i, j)$$



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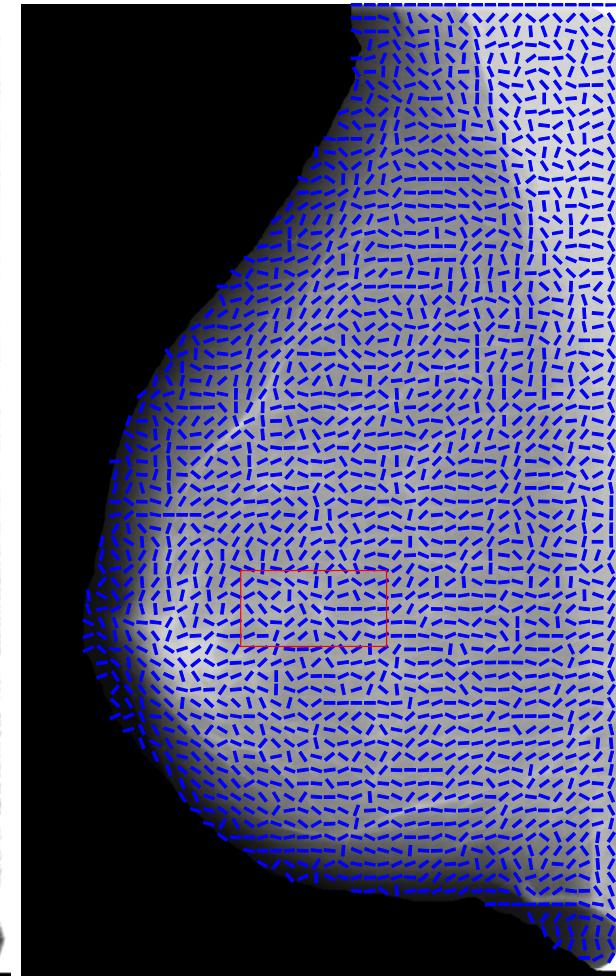
# Orientation field of breast tissue obtained using Gabor filters



*Original image*



*Gabor magnitude*

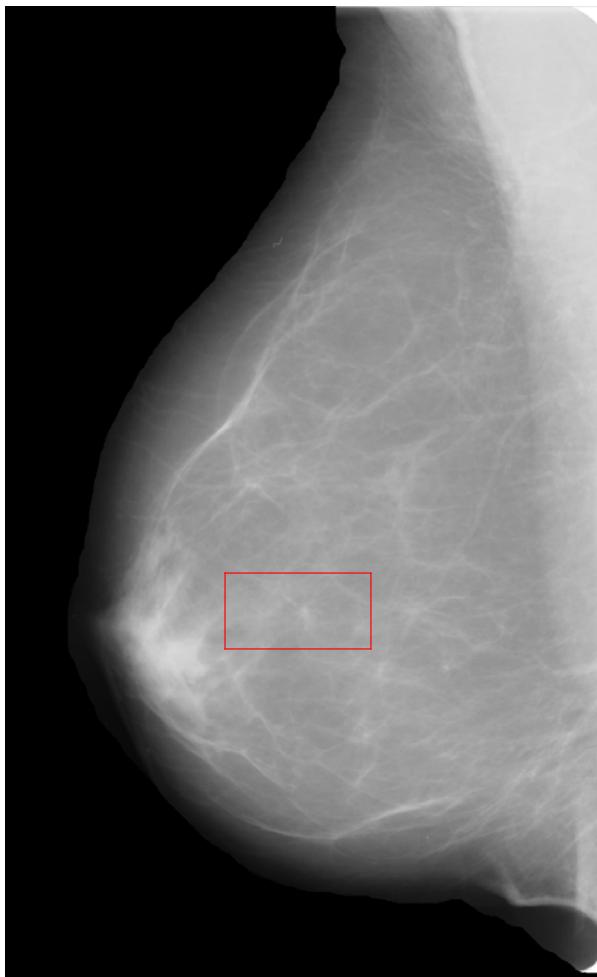


*Gabor angle*

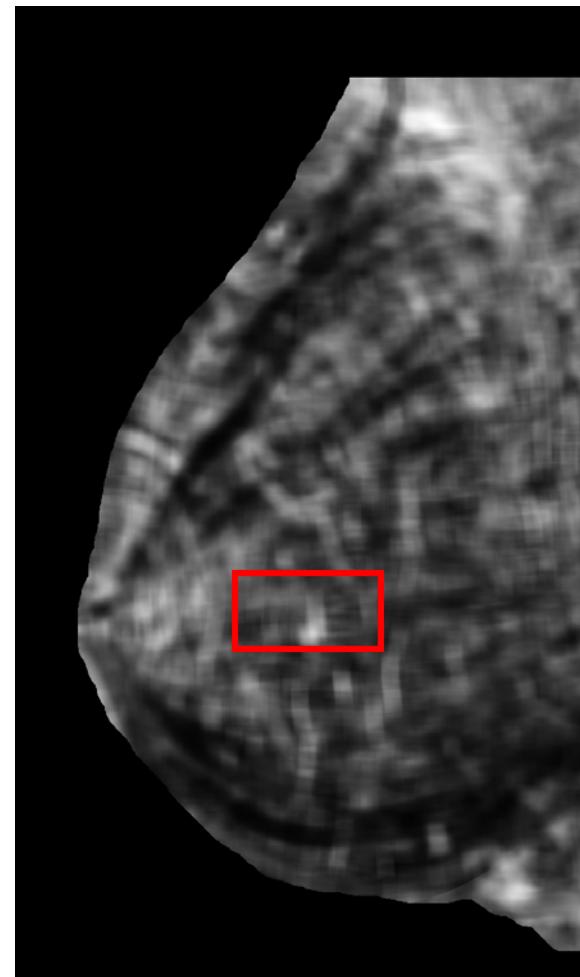


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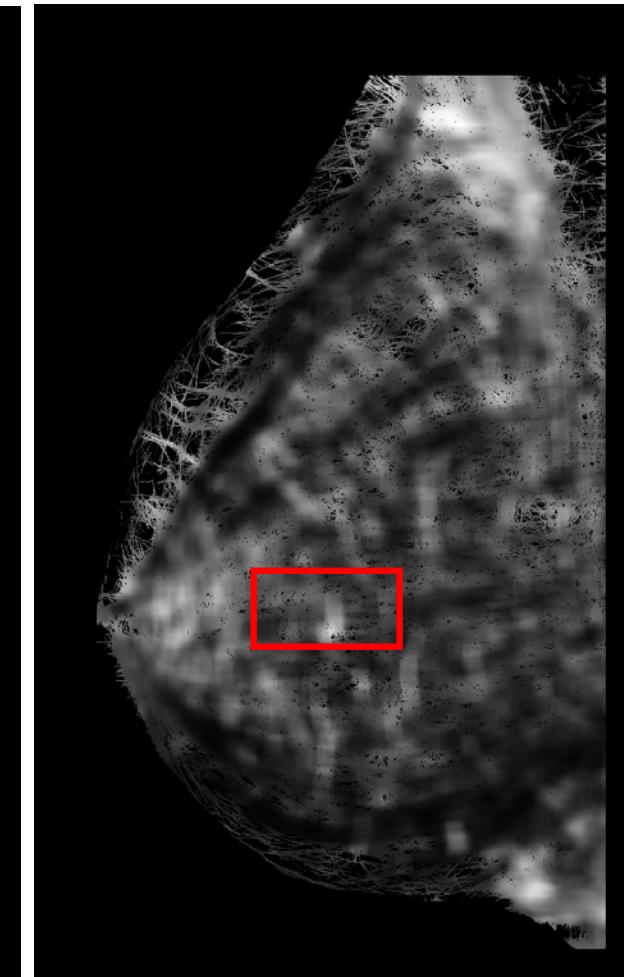
# Divergence with respect to the expected loci of breast tissue



*Original image*



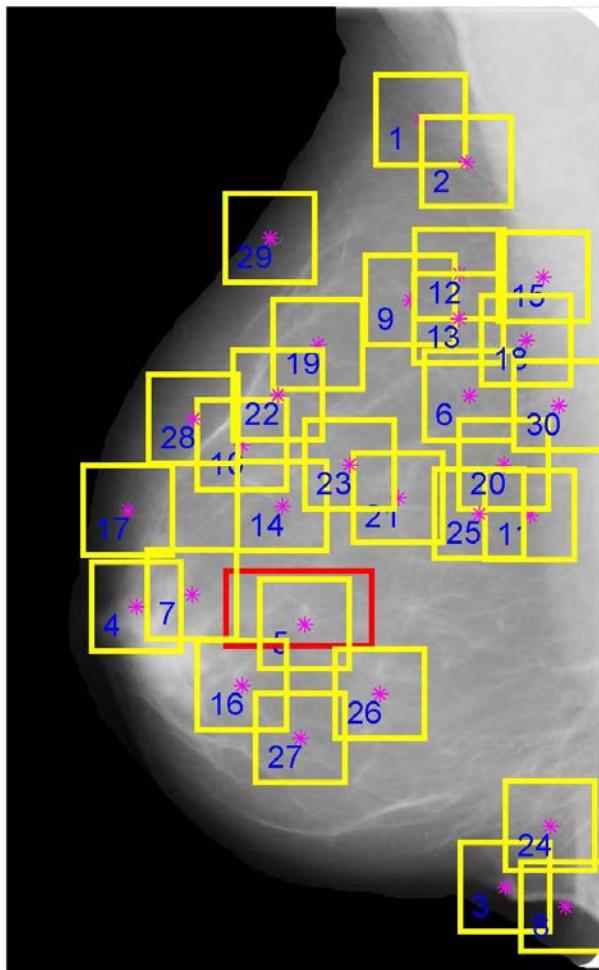
*Divergence map*



*Thresholded map*



# Automatically detected regions of interest



ROC: AUC = 0.61

FROC:  
Sensitivity = 80%  
at 9.1 FP/patient



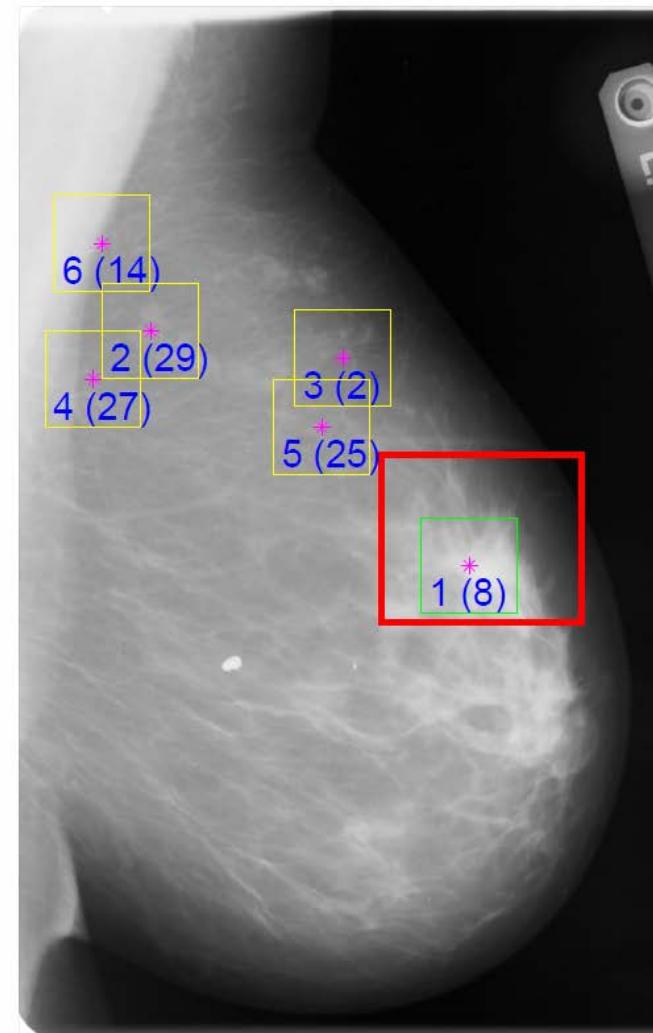
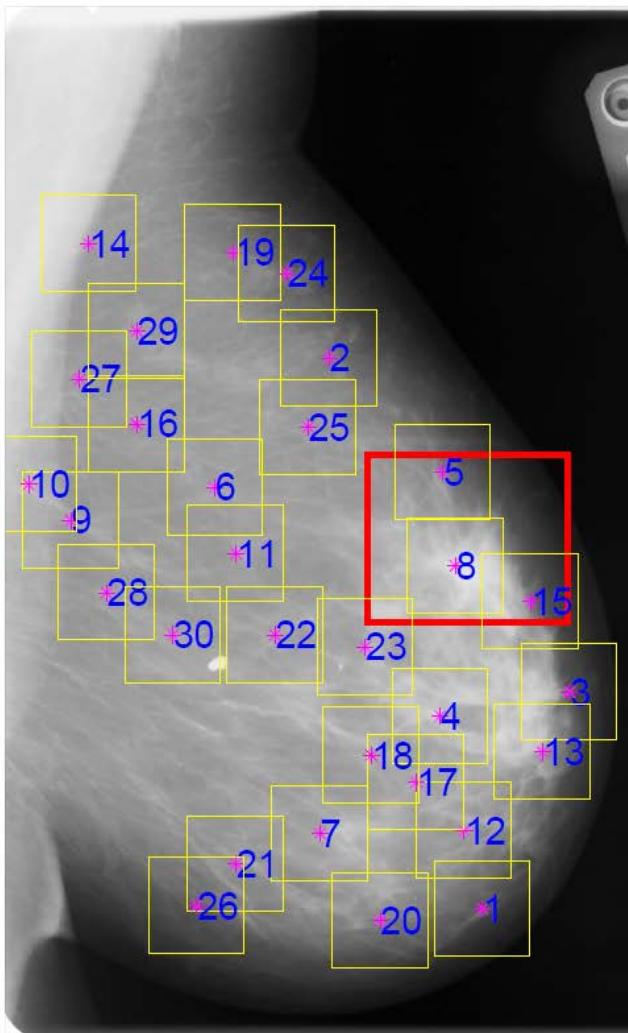
# Combination of 86 features

- Geometrical features of spicules: 12
- Haralick's and Laws' texture features, fractal dimension: 25
- Angular spread, entropy: 15
- Haralick's measures with angle cooccurrence matrices: 28
- Statistical measures of angular dispersion and correlation: 6
- Feature selection with stepwise logistic regression
- Bayesian classifier with leave-one-patient-out validation:  
**80% sensitivity at 3.7 FP/patient**



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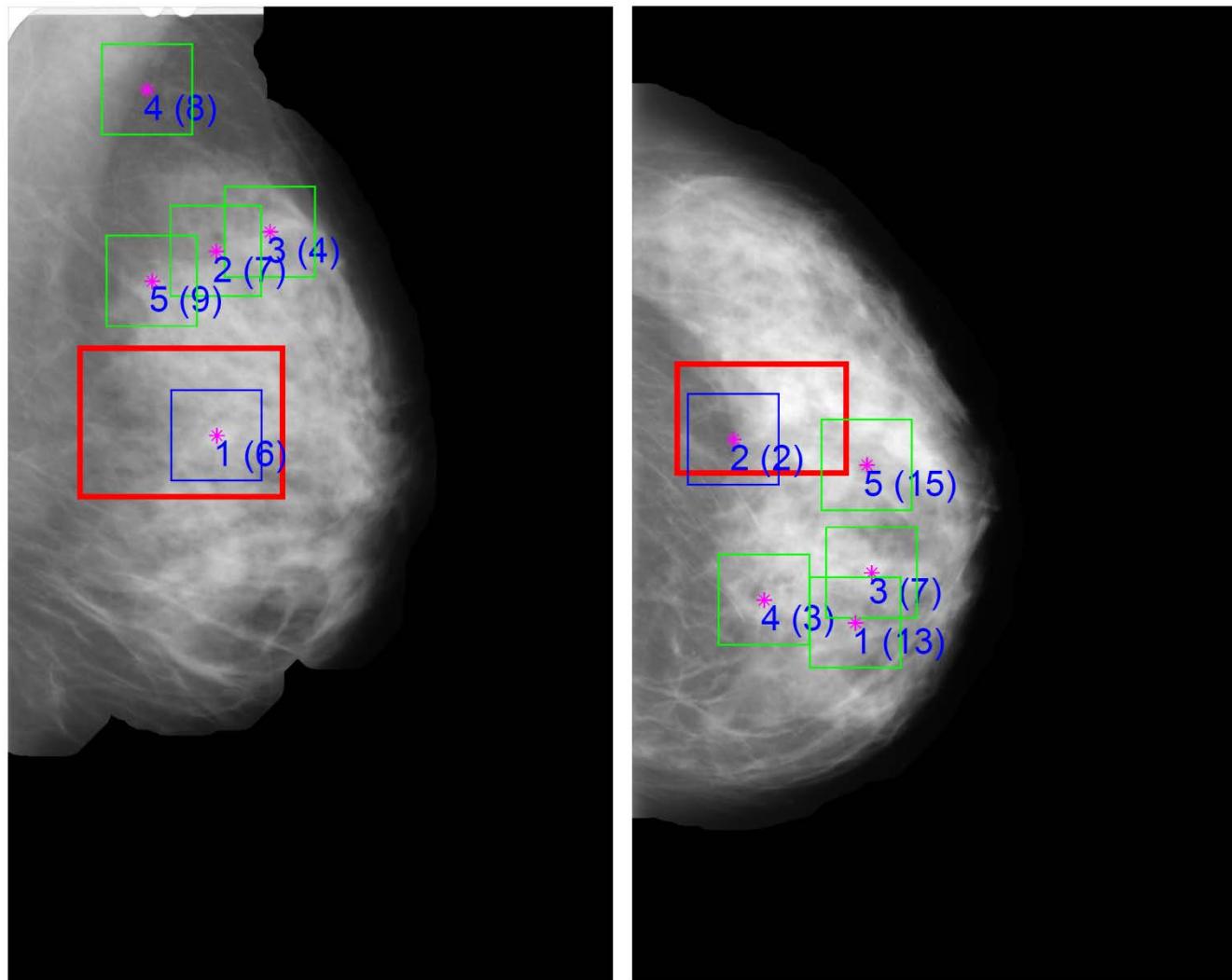
# Reduction of false positives





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# Reduction of false positives





# Conclusion

“Our methods can detect early signs of breast cancer 15 months ahead of the time of clinical diagnosis with a sensitivity of 80% with fewer than 4 false positives per patient”

- ❖ Further work required:

- Detection of sites of architectural distortion at higher sensitivity and lower false-positive rates
- Application to direct digital mammograms and breast tomosynthesis images



# Thank You!

- Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council (NSERC) of Canada
- Alberta Heritage Foundation for Medical Research
- Alberta and Canadian Breast Cancer Foundation
- Screen Test: Alberta Program for the Early Detection of Breast Cancer
- Indian Institute of Technology Kharagpur
- Shastri Indo-Canadian Institute
- University of Calgary International Grants Committee
- Department of Information Technology, Government of India
- My collaborators and students:  
Dr. J.E.L. Desautels, N. Mudigonda, H. Alto, F.J. Ayres, S. Banik,  
S. Prajna, J. Chakraborty, Dr. S. Mukhopadhyay

<http://people.ucalgary.ca/~ranga/>