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of Applied Sciences

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Faculty of Medicine
Biomedical Engineering

Master of Science Thesis

3D Liver Reconstruction from Tracked Ultrasound

by

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Abstract

The abstract should provide a concise (300-400 word) summary of the motivation, methodology, main results and conclusions. For example:

Osteoporosis is a disease in which the density and quality of bone are reduced. As the bones become more porous and fragile, the risk of fracture is greatly increased. The loss of bone occurs progressively, often there are no symptoms until the first fracture occurs. Nowadays as many women are dying from osteoporosis as from breast cancer. Moreover it has been estimated that yearly costs arising from osteoporotic fractures alone in Europe worth 30 billion Euros.

Percutaneous vertebroplasty is the injection of bone cement into the vertebral body in order to relieve pain and stabilize fractured and/or osteoporotic vertebrae with immediate improvement of the symptoms. Treatment risks and complications include those related to needle placement, infection, bleeding and cement extravazation. The cement can leak into extraosseous tissues, including the epidural or paravertebral venous system eventually ending in pulmonary embolism and death.

The aim of this project was to develop a computational model to simulate the flow of two immiscible fluids through porous trabecular bone in order to predict the three-dimensional spreading patterns developing from the cement injection and minimize the risk of cement extravazation while maximizing the mechanical effect. The computational model estimates region specific porosity and anisotropic permeability from Hounsfield unit values obtained from patient-specific clinical computer tomography data sets. The creeping flow through the porous matrix is governed by a modified version of Darcy's Law, an empirical relation of the pressure gradient to the flow velocity with consideration of the complex rheological properties of bone cement.

To simulate the immiscible two phase fluid flow, i.e. the displacement of a biofluid by a biomaterial, a fluid interface tracking algorithm with mixed boundary representation has been developed. The nonlinear partial differential equation arising from the problem was numerically implemented into the open-source Finite Element framework *libMesh*. The algorithm design allows the incorporation of the developed methods into a larger simulation of vertebral bone augmentation for pre-surgical planning.

First simulation trials showed close agreement with the findings from relevant literature. The computational model demonstrated efficiency and numerical stability. The future model development may incorporate the morphology of the region specific trabecular bone structure improving the models' accuracy or the prediction of the orientation and alignment of fiber-reinforced bone cements in order to increase fracture-resistance.

Acknowledgements

Here you may include acknowledgements.

Ich erkläre hiermit, dass ich diese Arbeit selbständig verfasst und keine anderen als die angegebenen Hilfsmittel benutzt habe. Alle Stellen, die wörtlich oder sinngemäss aus Quellen entnommen wurden, habe ich als solche kenntlich gemacht. Mir ist bekannt, dass andernfalls der Senat gemäss dem Gesetz über die Universität zum Entzug des auf Grund dieser Arbeit verliehenen Titels berechtigt ist.

Bern, October 31$^{\text{th}}$ 2018

Luca Sahli

Contents

Contents **vii**

1 Introduction **1**
1.1 Motivation . . . 1
1.2 The Liver . . . 1
1.2.1 Liver Anatomy . . . 1
1.2.2 Liver Cancer . . . 1
1.3 Liver Resections . . . 1
1.4 Objectives . . . 1

2 State of the Art **3**
2.1 Intraoperative Ultrasound . . . 3
2.2 Tracking . . . 3
2.2.1 Optical Tracking . . . 3
2.2.2 Electromagnetic Tracking . . . 3
2.3 Compounded 3D Ultrasound . . . 3
2.4 Others . . . 3

3 Problem Statement **5**

4 Concept **7**
4.1 System . . . 7
4.2 Functionalities . . . 7
4.2.1 Instrument Tracking . . . 7
4.2.2 Surface Reconstruction . . . 7
4.2.3 Image Segmentation . . . 7
4.3 Workflow . . . 7
4.3.1 Surface Scanning . . . 7
4.3.2 Tumor Segmentation . . . 7
4.3.3 Resection Planning . . . 7

5 Implementation **9**
5.1 Surface Reconstruction . . . 9
5.1.1 Reconstruction Algorithm . . . 9
5.1.2 Outlier removal . . . 9
5.2 Tumor Segmentation . . . 9
5.2.1 Segmentation Algorithm . . . 9
5.3 Resection Planning . . . 9
5.3.1 VTK Implicite Functions . . . 9

5.4 Navigation 9
5.5 Proposed Workflow 9

6 Experiments **11**
6.1 Surface Accuracy 11
6.1.1 Reference Point Grid 11
6.1.2 Ultrasound Recordings 11
6.1.3 Reconstruction Parameters 11
6.2 Retrospective Test 11
6.3 Useability Test 11

7 Discussion and Conclusions **13**
7.1 Discussion 13
7.2 Conclusions 13

8 Outlook **15**

A Vector and Tensor Mathematics **19**
A.1 Introduction 19
A.2 Variable Types 19

B Another Appendix **21**
B.1 Section 1 21
B.2 Section 2 21

Chapter 1

Introduction

1.1 Motivation

1.2 The Liver

1.2.1 Liver Anatomy

1.2.2 Liver Cancer

1.3 Liver Resections

1.4 Objectives

Chapter 2

State of the Art

2.1 Intraoperative Ultrasound

2.2 Tracking

2.2.1 Optical Tracking

2.2.2 Electromagnetic Tracking

2.3 Compounded 3D Ultrasound

2.4 Others

Chapter 3

Problem Statement

Chapter 4

Concept

4.1 System

4.2 Functionalities

4.2.1 Instrument Tracking

4.2.2 Surface Reconstruction

4.2.3 Image Segmentation

4.3 Workflow

4.3.1 Surface Scanning

4.3.2 Tumor Segmentation

4.3.3 Resection Planning

Chapter 5

Implementation

5.1 Surface Reconstruction

5.1.1 Reconstruction Algorithm

5.1.2 Outlier removal

5.2 Tumor Segmentation

5.2.1 Segmentation Algorithm

5.3 Resection Planning

5.3.1 VTK Implicite Functions

5.4 Navigation

5.5 Proposed Workflow

Chapter 6

Experiments

6.1 Surface Accuracy

6.1.1 Reference Point Grid

6.1.2 Ultrasound Recordings

6.1.3 Reconstruction Parameters

6.2 Retrospective Test

6.3 Useability Test

Chapter 7

Discussion and Conclusions

7.1 Discussion

Interpret your results in the context of past and current studies and literature on the same topic. Attempt to explain inconsistencies or contrasting opinion. Highlight the novelty of your work. Objectively discuss the limitations.

7.2 Conclusions

Formulate clear conclusions which are supported by your research results.

Chapter 8

Outlook

Provide a vision of possible future work to continue and extend your thesis research.

etc.

Appendices

Appendix A

Vector and Tensor Mathematics

A.1 Introduction

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A.2 Variable Types

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Appendix B

Another Appendix

B.1 Section 1

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B.2 Section 2

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