

# 10 ans de développements d'approches de segmentation d'images TEP/TDM : le chemin parcouru, ce qu'il reste à explorer

Mathieu Hatt

Laboratoire du Traitement de l'Information Médicale

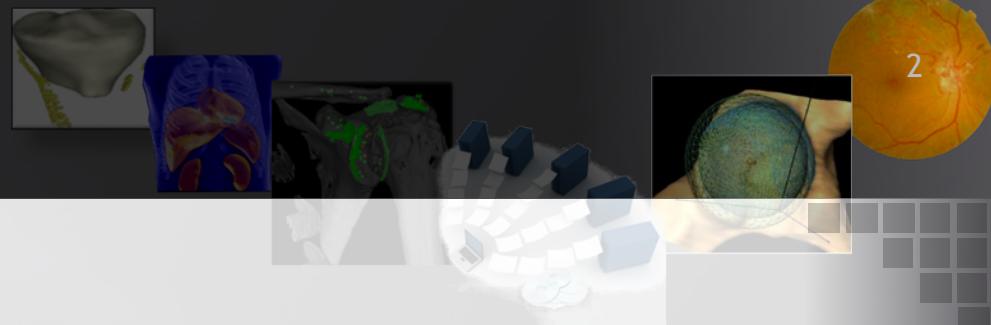
LaTIM, UMR INSERM-UBO 1101, Brest

EPU Traitements d'images en physique médicale

Les Sables-d'Olonne, Octobre 2015

# Introduction

## PET/CT multimodal imaging



Ron Nutt & David Townsend  
2000



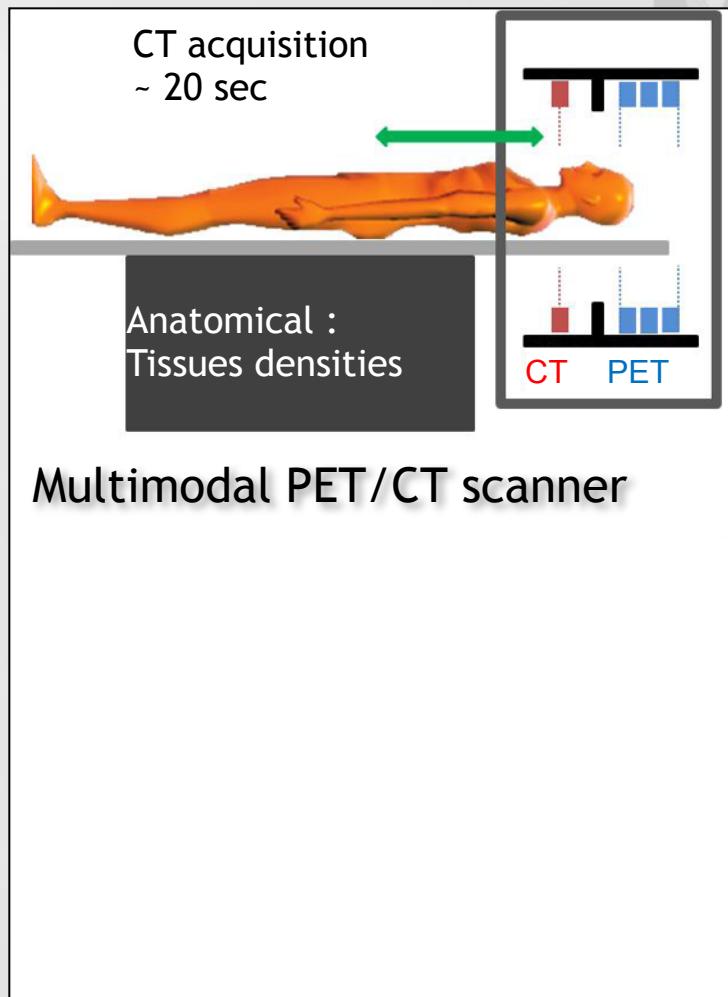
Beyer T, et al. A combined PET/CT scanner for clinical oncology. *J Nucl Med.* 2000

# Introduction

PET/CT multimodal imaging



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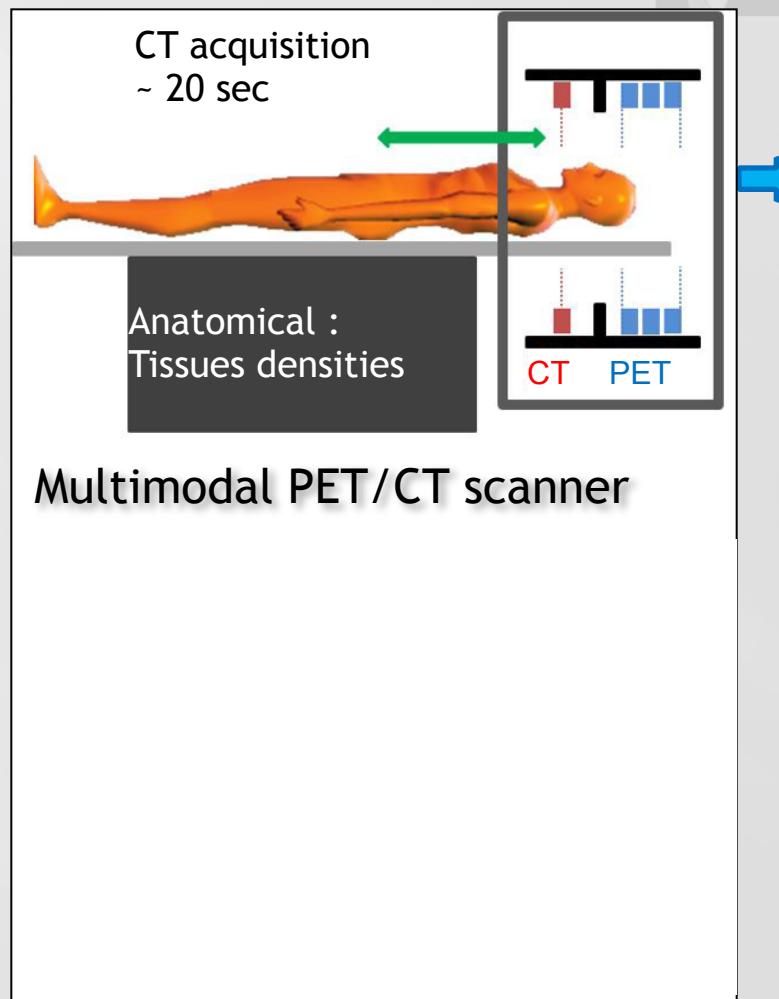
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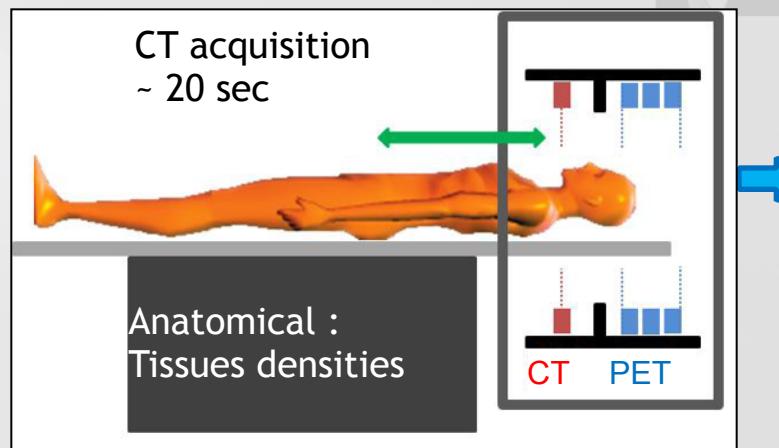
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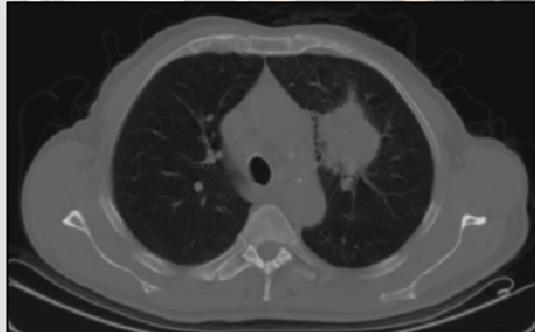
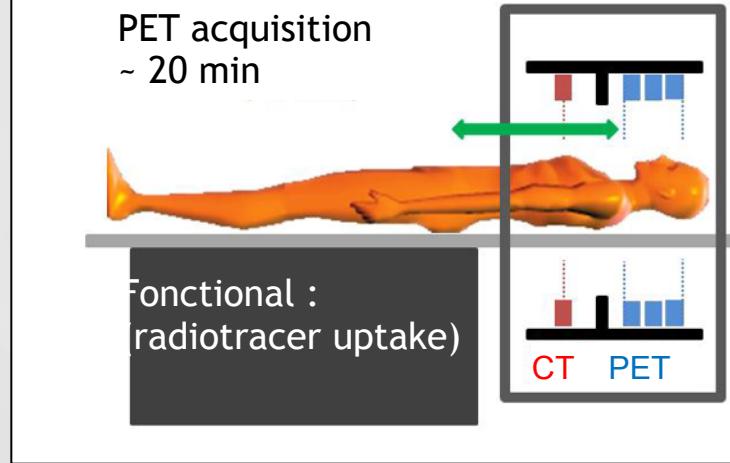
## PET/CT multimodal imaging



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### Multimodal PET/CT scanner



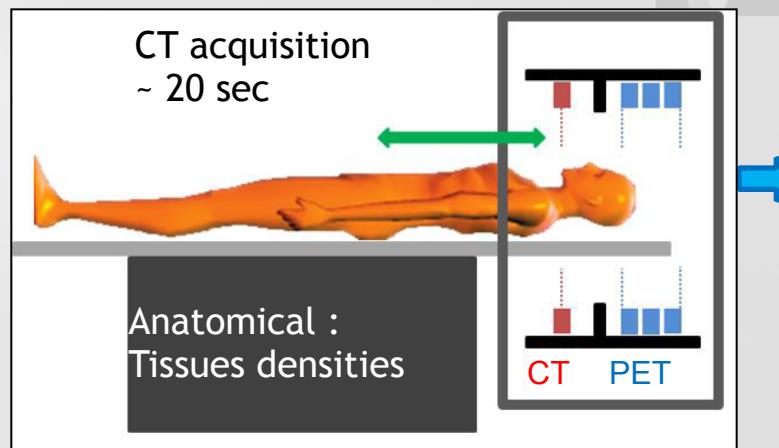
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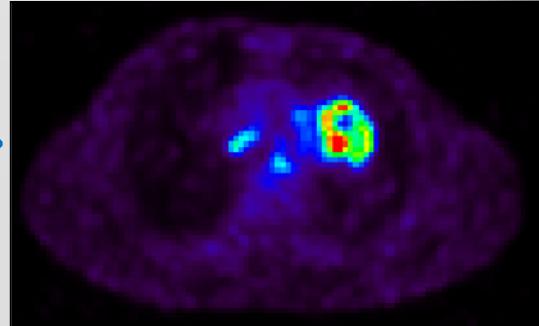
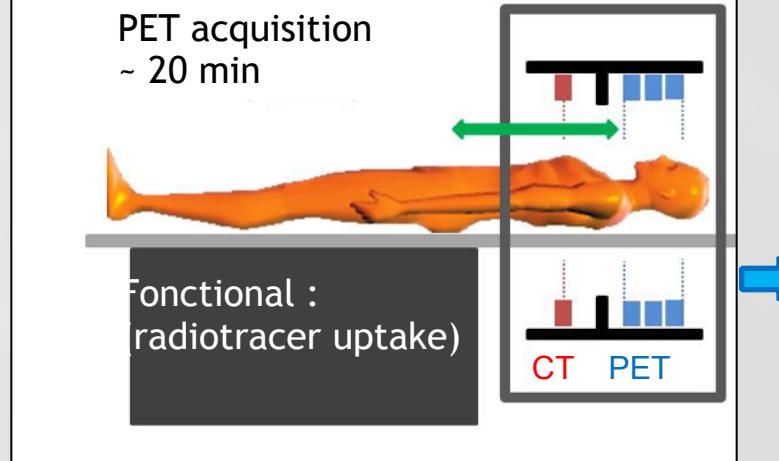
PET/CT multimodal imaging



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## Multimodal PET/CT scanner



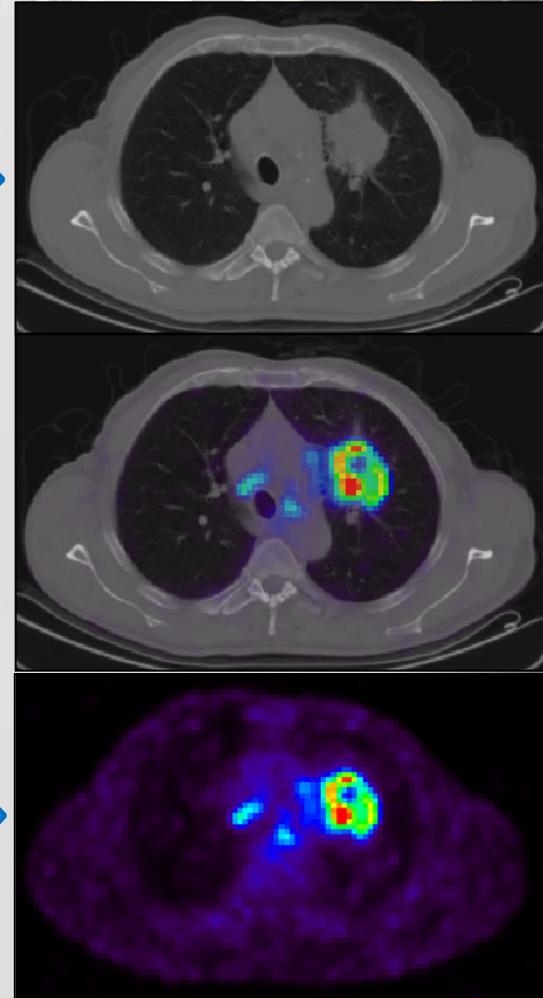
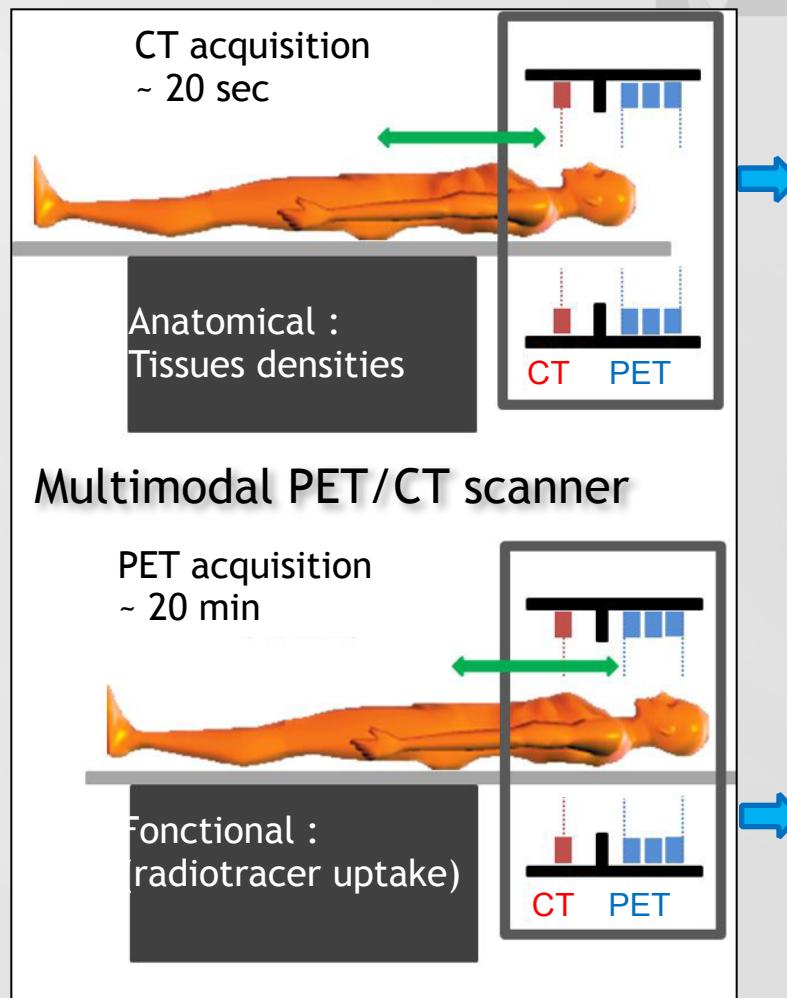
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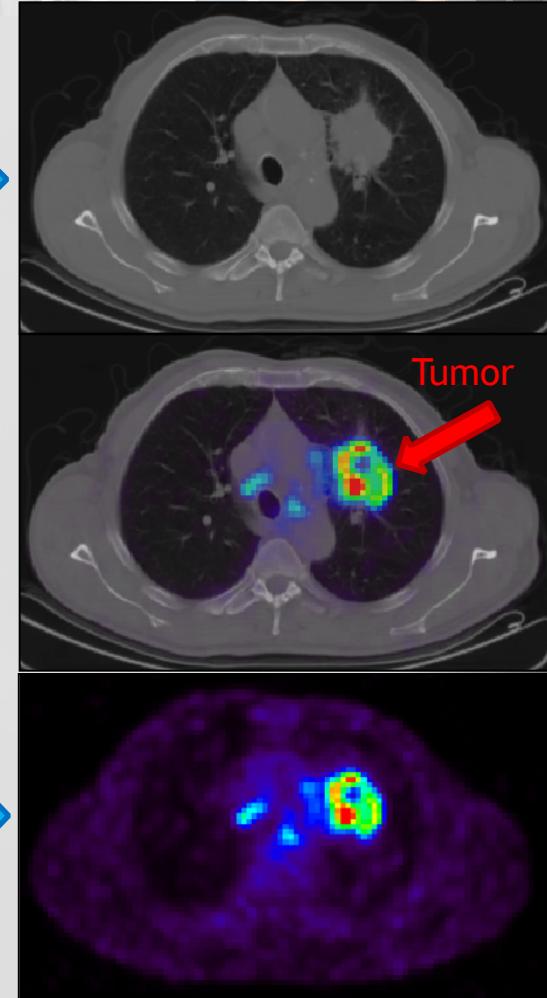
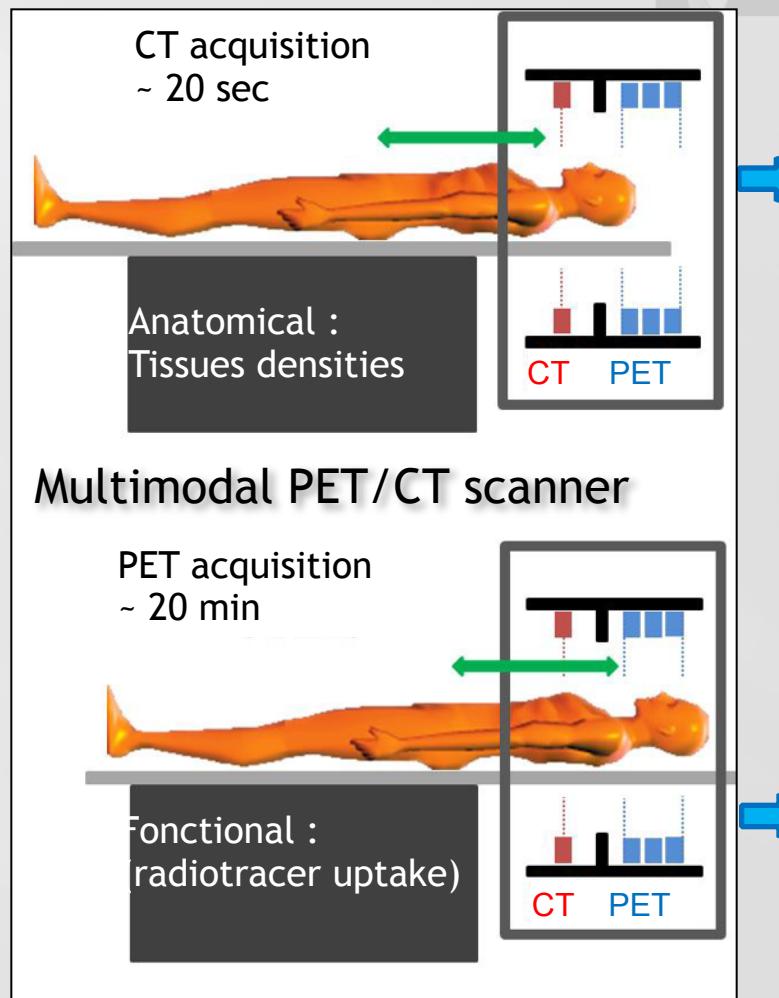
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# Introduction

## PET/CT multimodal imaging



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Beyer T, et al. A combined PET/CT scanner for clinical oncology. *J Nucl Med.* 2000

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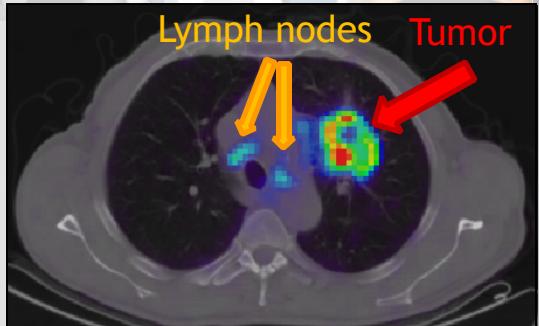
Clinical exploitation of PET/CT images



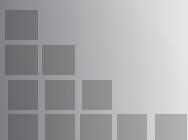
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## Clinical routine:

- Diagnosis, staging
  - Visual detection
  - Tumor, lymph nodes, metastases

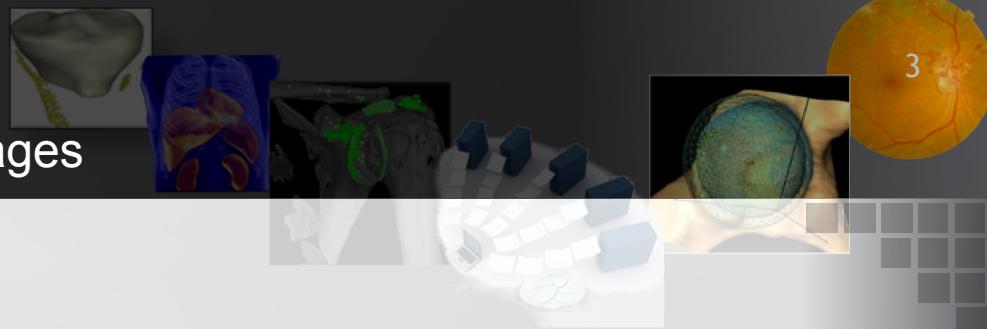


Fused PET/CT



# Introduction

Clinical exploitation of PET/CT images

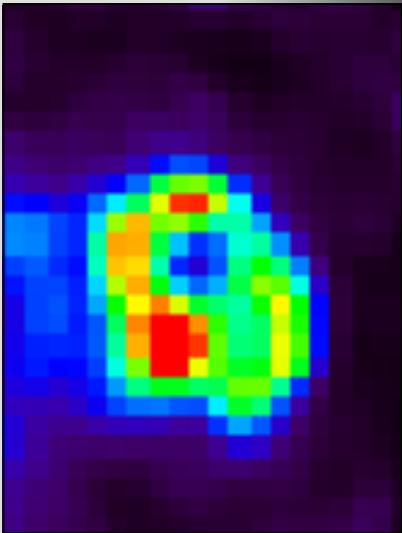


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- Diagnosis, staging
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- Monitoring treatment
  - Manual / visual
  - Simple metrics
    - Longest axes (CT)
    - $SUV^{*}_{\max}$ ,  $SUV_{\text{peak}}$  (PET)



CT

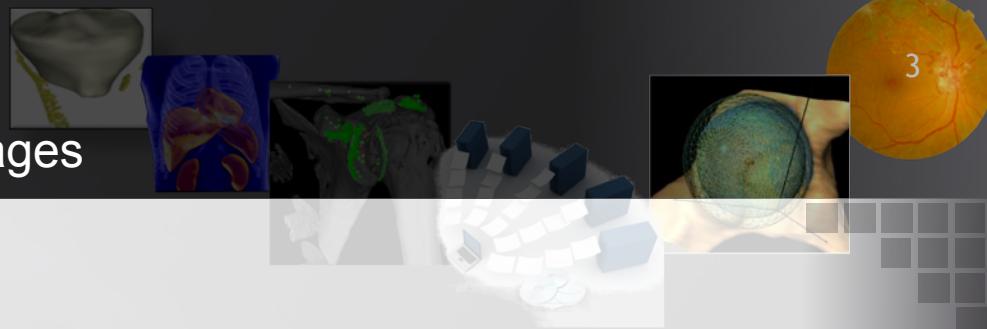


FDG PET

\*SUV = standardized uptake value

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Clinical exploitation of PET/CT images

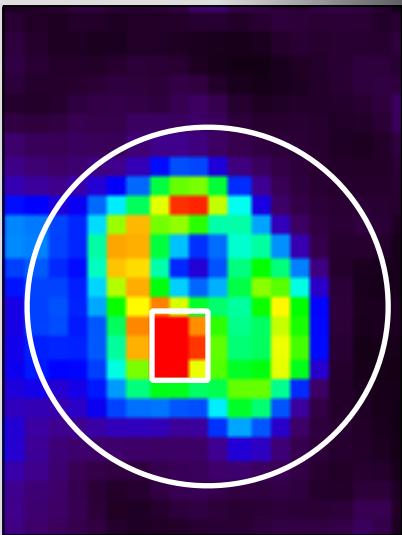


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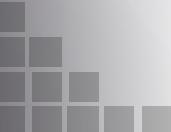
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CT

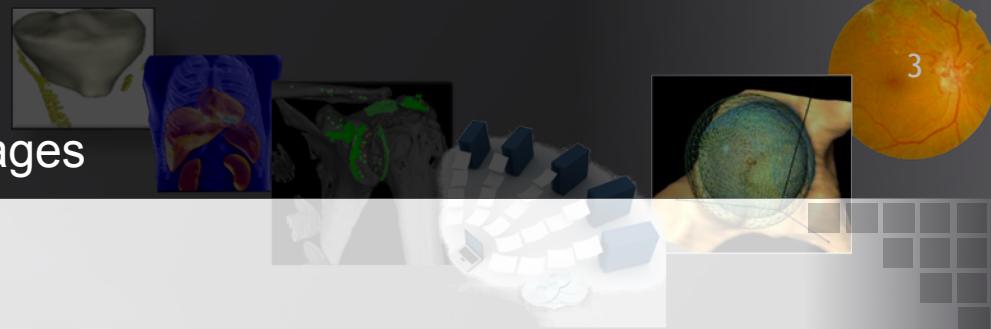


FDG PET



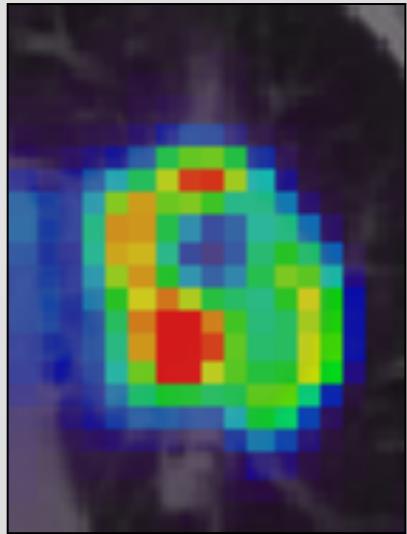
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Clinical exploitation of PET/CT images



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- Radiotherapy
  - Manual delineation



Fused PET/CT

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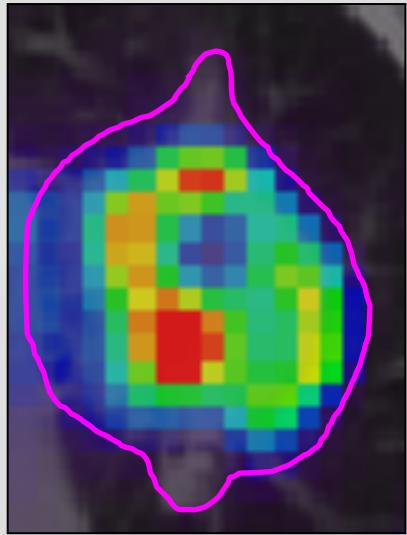
Clinical exploitation of PET/CT images



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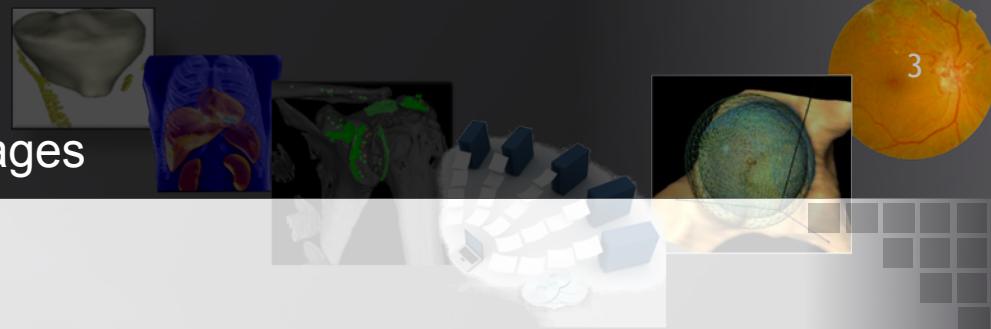
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Fused PET/CT

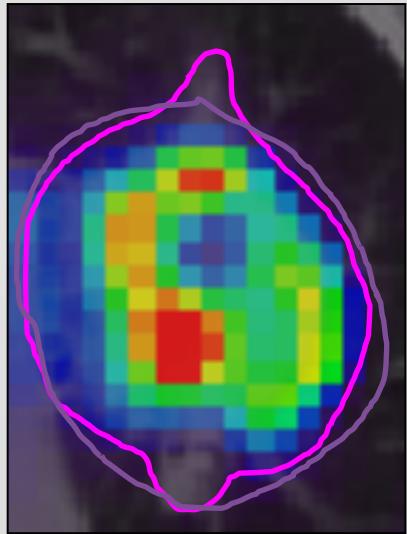
# Introduction

Clinical exploitation of PET/CT images



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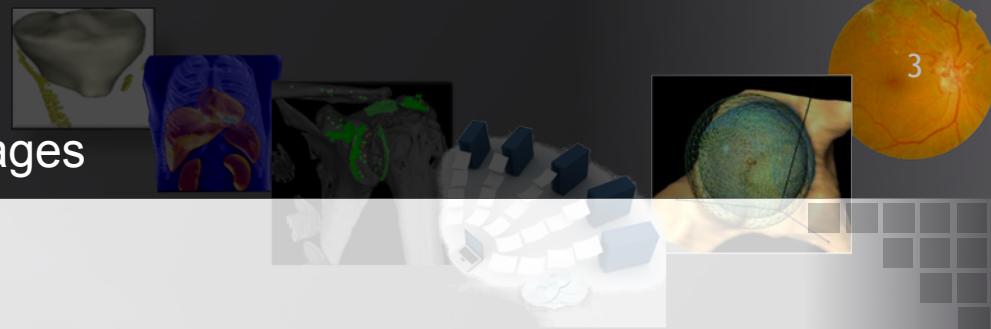
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Fused PET/CT

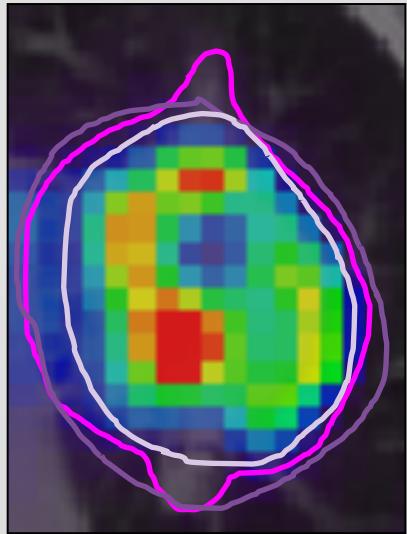
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Clinical exploitation of PET/CT images



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Fused PET/CT

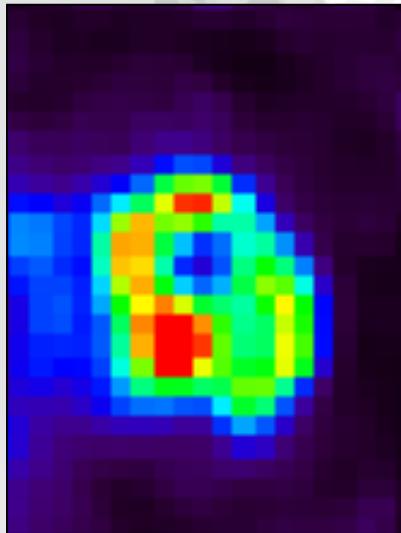
# Introduction

Characterization of tumors in oncology: rationale

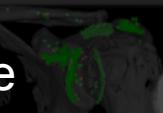
## Research:



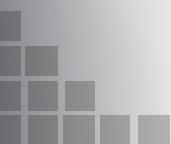
CT



FDG PET



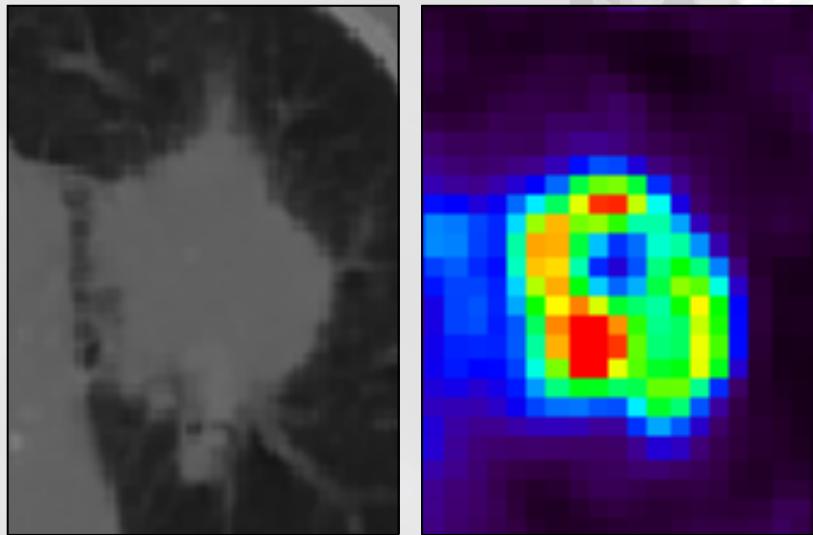
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# Introduction

Characterization of tumors in oncology: rationale

## Research:



CT

FDG PET

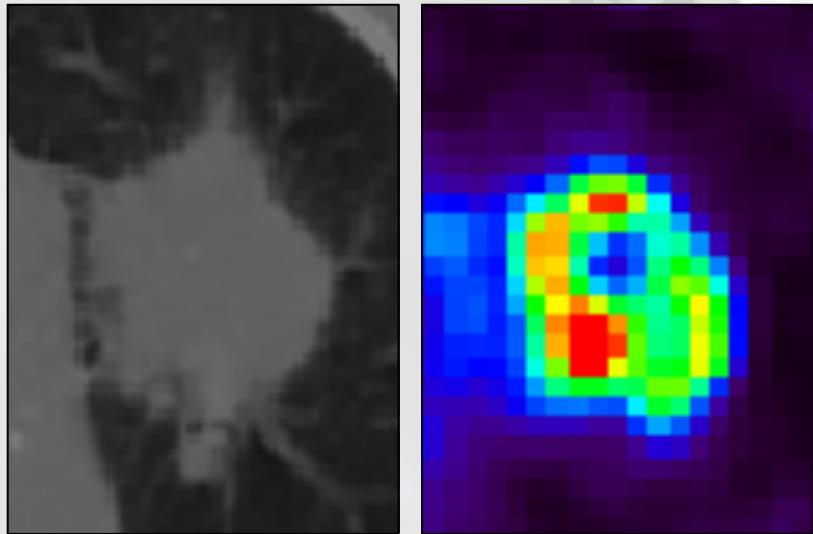
Pre-processing



# Introduction

Characterization of tumors in oncology: rationale

## Research:



CT

FDG PET

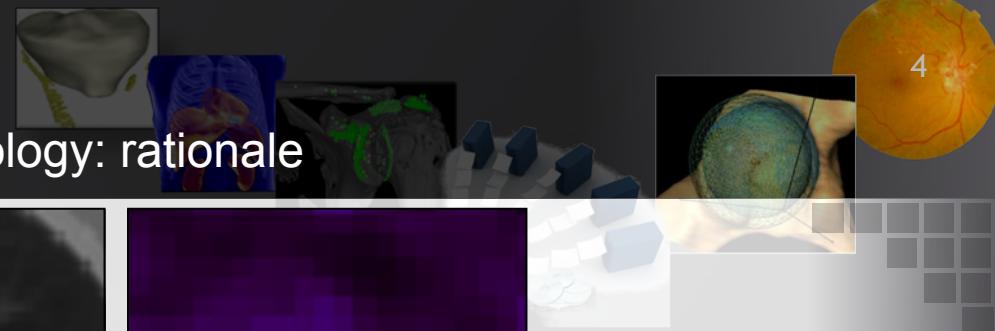
Pre-processing

Segmentation

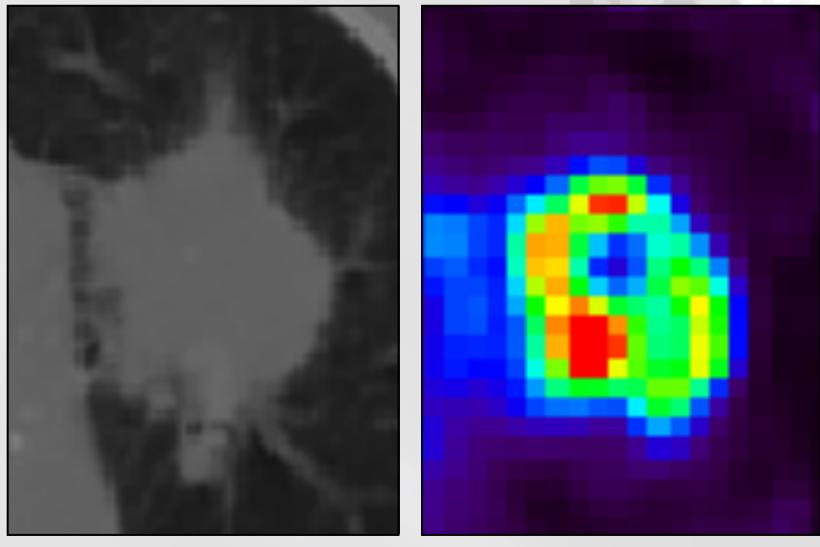


# Introduction

Characterization of tumors in oncology: rationale



## Research:



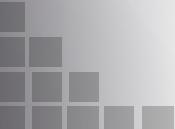
CT

FDG PET

Pre-processing

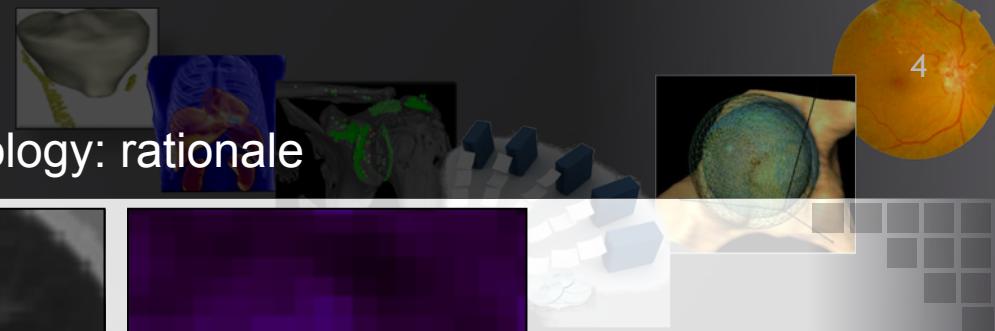
Segmentation

Characterization

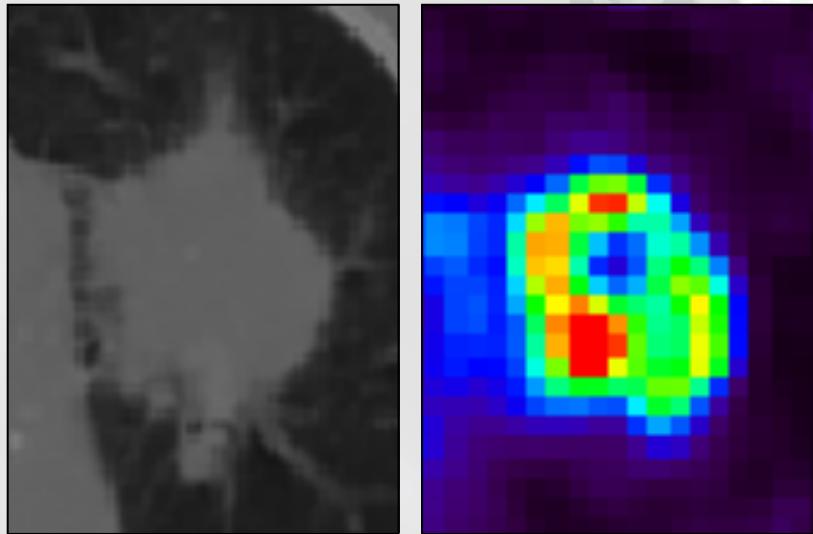


# Introduction

Characterization of tumors in oncology: rationale



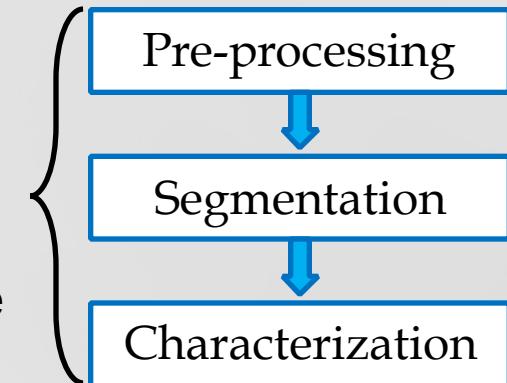
## Research:



CT

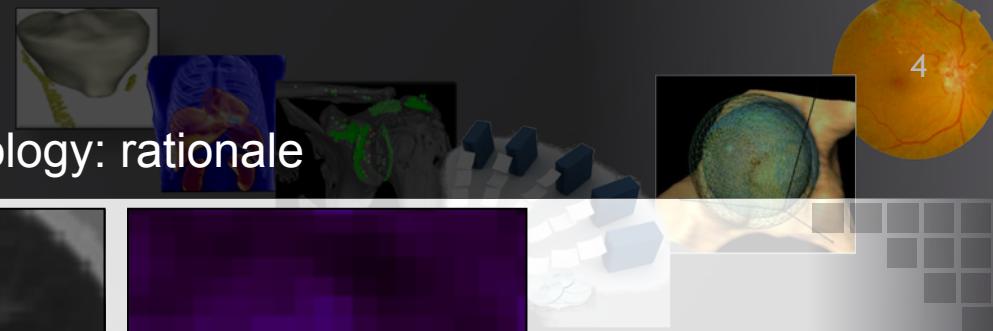
FDG PET

- (Semi)Automatic
- Robust
- Reproducible
- Quantitative
- Prognostic / predictive

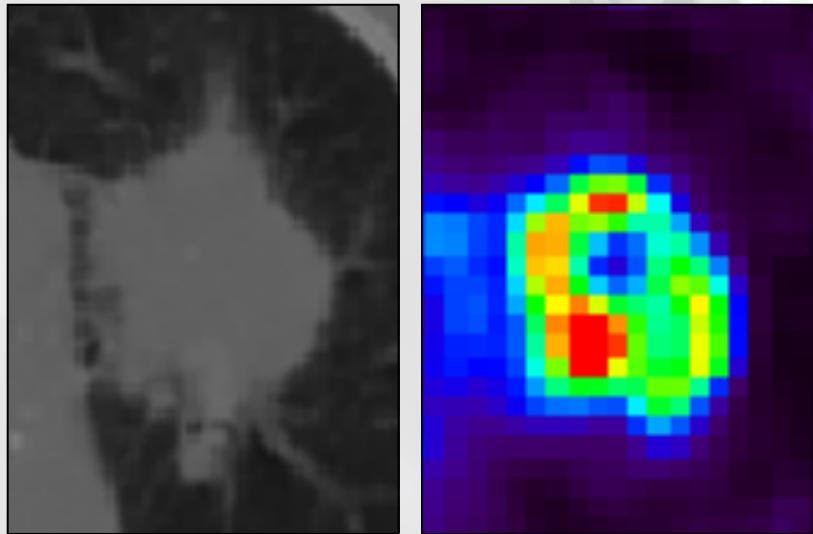


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Characterization of tumors in oncology: rationale



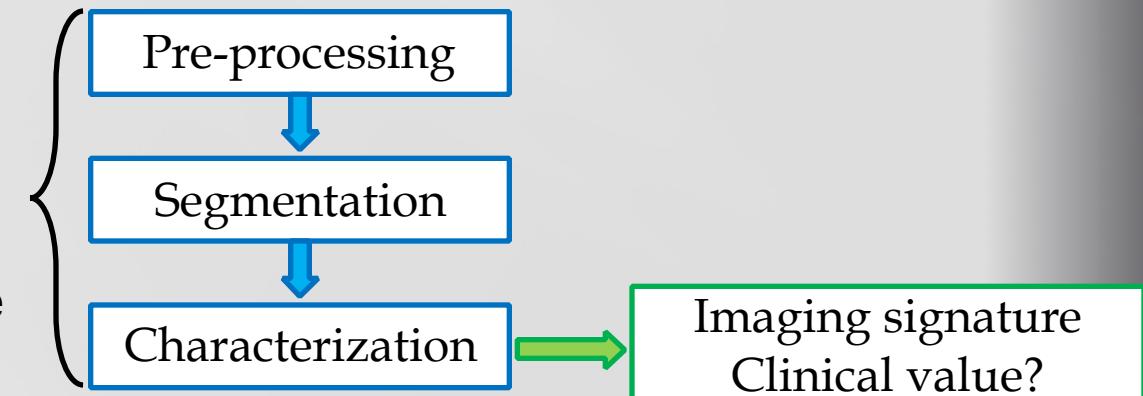
## Research:



CT

FDG PET

- (Semi)Automatic
- Robust
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# Introduction

## Image segmentation

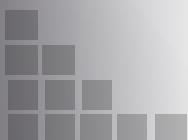


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### Image segmentation:

- Partitionning the image (2D, pixels) or volume (3D, voxels) into homogeneous regions



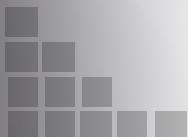
# Introduction

## Image segmentation



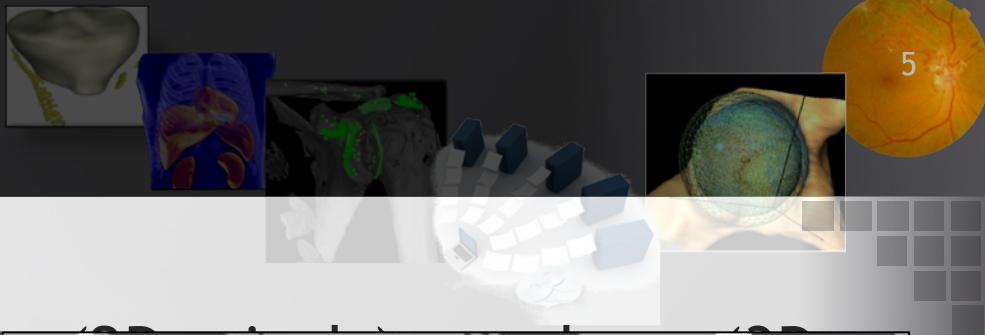
### Image segmentation:

- Partitionning the image (2D, pixels) or volume (3D, voxels) into homogeneous regions
- According to one or several criteria
  - Intensities
  - Shapes, positions
  - Textures
  - ...



# Introduction

## Image segmentation



### Image segmentation:



# Introduction

## Image segmentation



### Image segmentation:

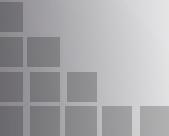


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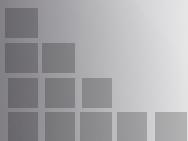


- 1973, Alexander Sawchuk, USC Signal and Image Processing Institute
- Looking for an image for conference proceedings:
  - A human face
  - High dynamic range
  - Textures and details as well as large homogeneous regions, etc.



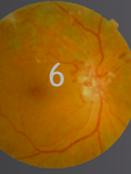
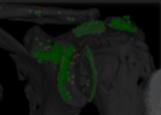
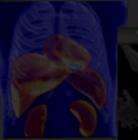
# Introduction

## Image segmentation



# Introduction

## Image segmentation



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Lenna Soderberg  
Miss November '72



MISS NOVEMBER

PLAYBOY'S PLAYMATE OF THE MONTH

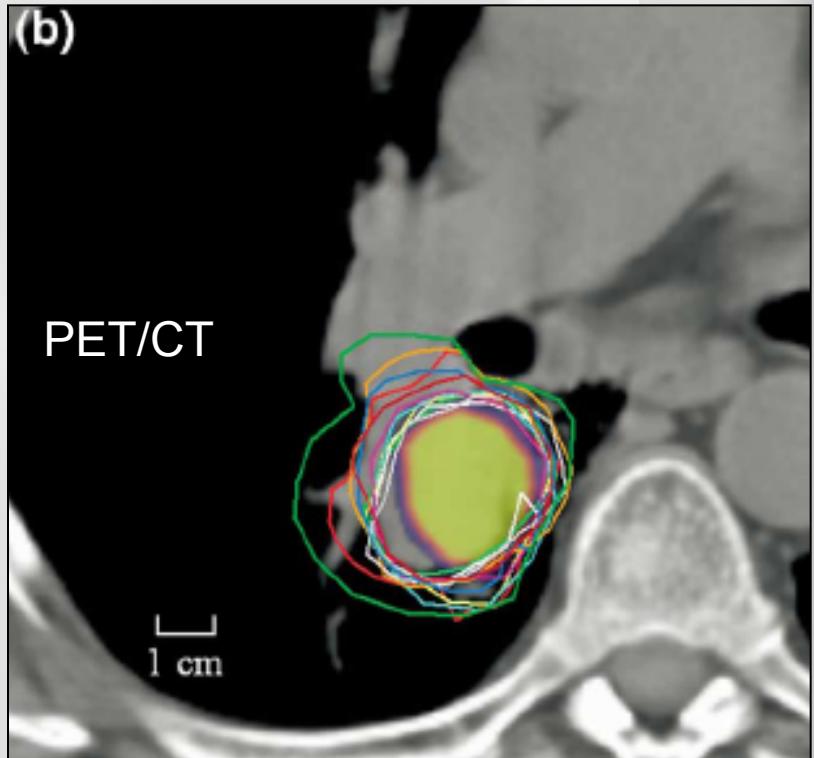
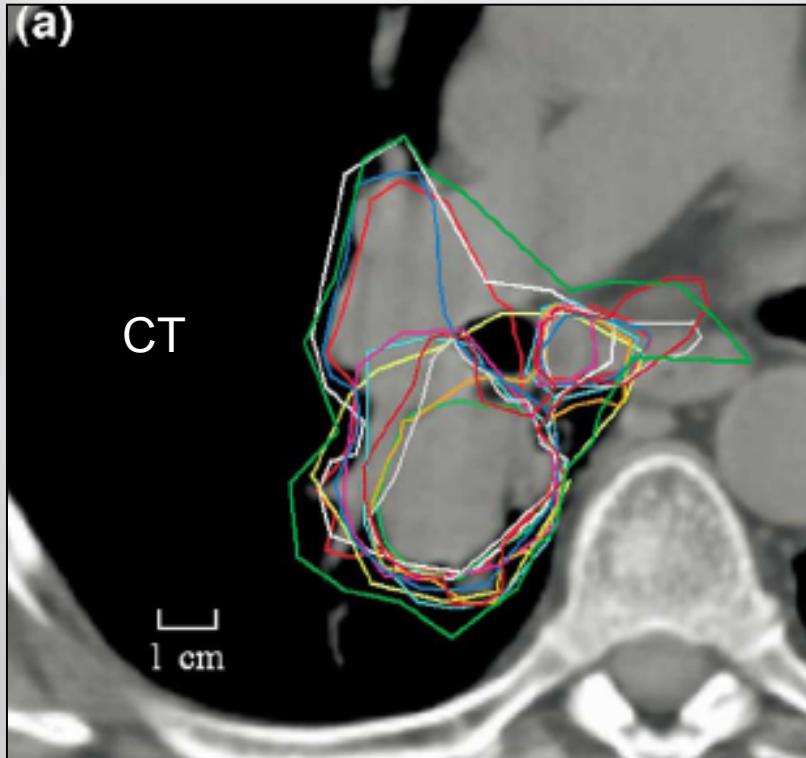
# Introduction

PET segmentation: motivations



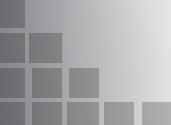
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## ▶ PET/CT: target definition, treatment planning



11 radiation oncologists:

Reduced inter observer variability  
Faster delineation



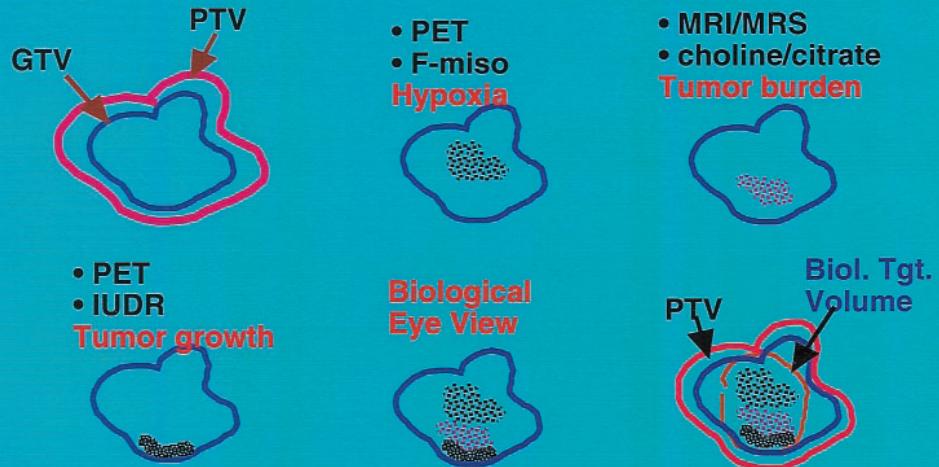
# Introduction

PET segmentation: motivations



## PET/CT: target definition, treatment planning

### Biological Target Volume?



CC. Ling, et al. Towards multidimensional radiotherapy (MD-CRT): biological imaging and biological conformality. *Int J Radiat Oncol Biol Phys.* 2000

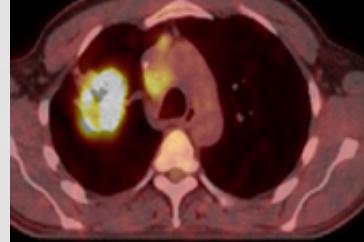
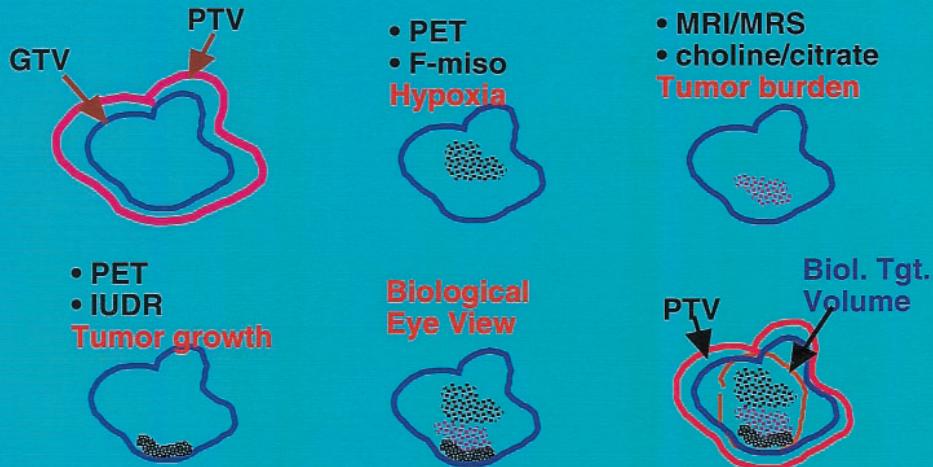
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PET segmentation: motivations

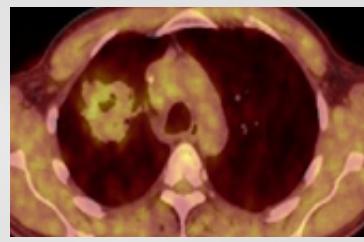


## PET/CT: target definition, treatment planning

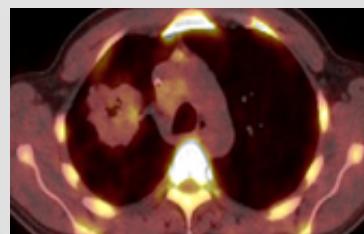
### Biological Target Volume?



FDG (metabolism)



FMISO (hypoxia)



FLT (cellular proliferation )

Vera P., et al. Simultaneous PET assessment of metabolism with FDG, proliferation with FLT, and hypoxia with F-miso before and during radiotherapy in patients with non-small-cell lung cancer (NSCLC): a pilot study. *Radiother Oncol.* 2011

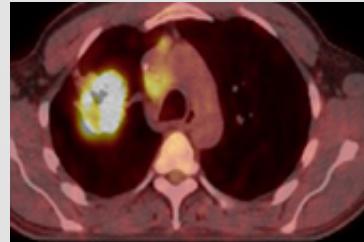
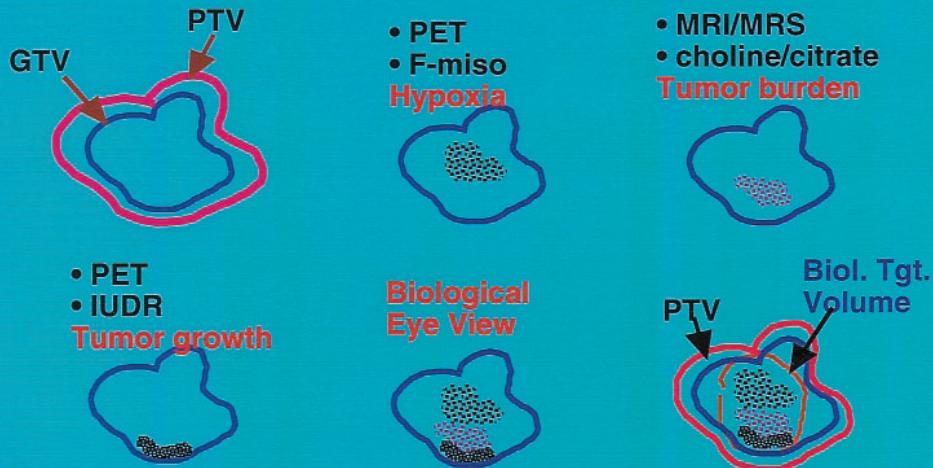
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PET segmentation: motivations

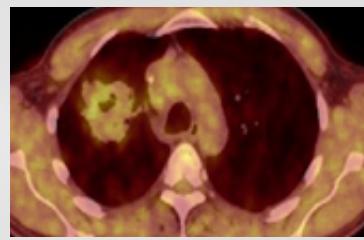


## PET/CT: target definition, treatment planning

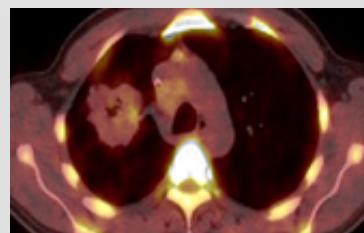
### Biological Target Volume?



FDG (metabolism)



FMISO (hypoxia)



FLT (cellular proliferation )

### Issues:

1. How to define these volumes/sub volumes?
2. How to subsequently use them?

Vera P., et al. Simultaneous PET assessment of metabolism with FDG, proliferation with FLT, and hypoxia with F-miso before and during radiotherapy in patients with non-small-cell lung cancer (NSCLC): a pilot study. *Radiother Oncol.* 2011

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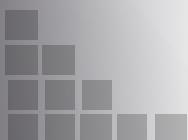
## ▶ PET/CT: target definition, treatment planning



Anatomical/morphological tumor volume

#

functional (metabolic/hypoxic/proliferative) tumor volume



# Introduction

PET segmentation: motivations



## PET/CT: target definition, treatment planning

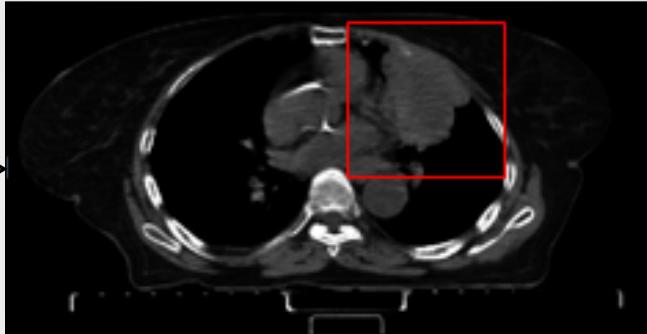


Anatomical/morphological tumor volume

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functional (metabolic/hypoxic/proliferative) tumor volume

CT



←  
PET  
(FDG)

# Introduction

PET segmentation: motivations



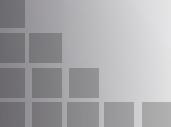
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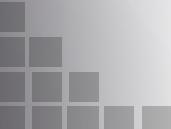
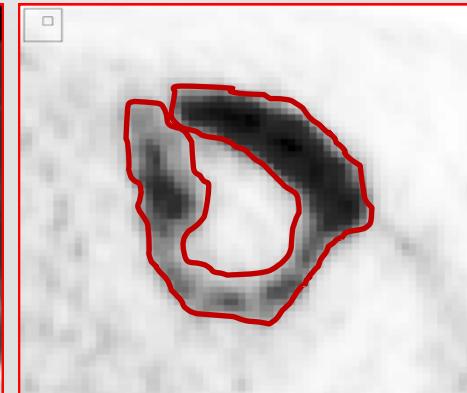
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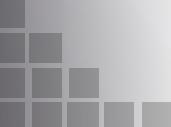
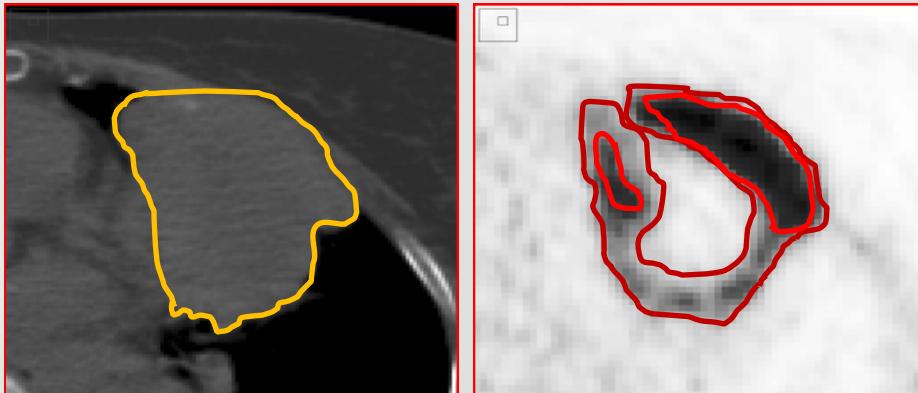
## PET/CT: target definition, treatment planning



Anatomical/morphological tumor volume

#

functional (metabolic/hypoxic/proliferative) tumor volume



# Introduction

PET segmentation: motivations



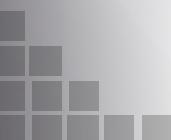
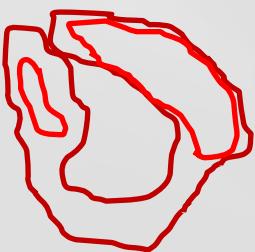
## ▶ PET/CT: target definition, treatment planning



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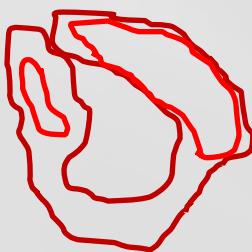
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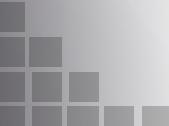
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Complementary information + dosimetry optimization



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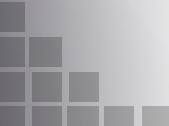
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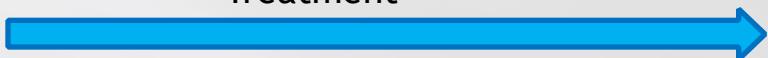
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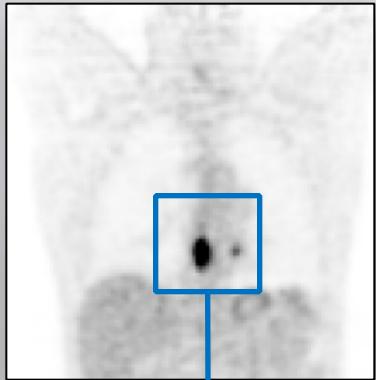
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## ▶ PET/CT: from assessment to monitoring/predicting response to therapy

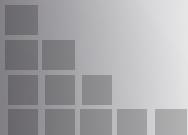
Treatment



Pre treatment  
(< baseline >)



Prediction



# Introduction

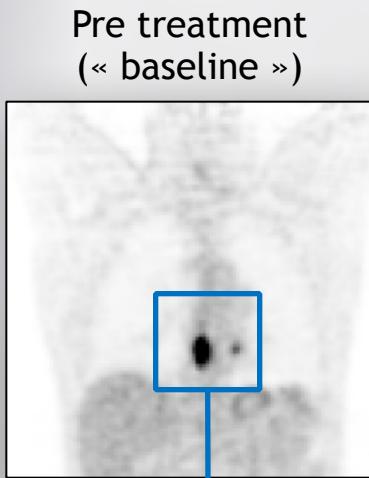
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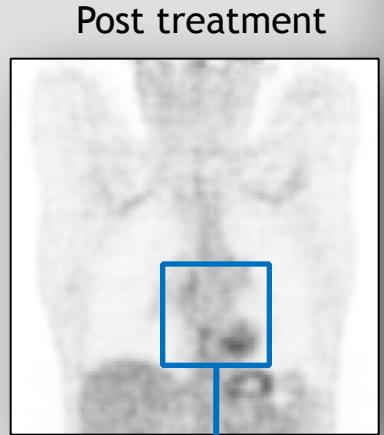
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## ▶ PET/CT: from assessment to monitoring/predicting response to therapy

Treatment



Prediction



Late assessment  
(RECIST → PERCIST)

- response, relapse, overall/disease-free survival, toxicity
- goal: improve patient management, personalized treatment

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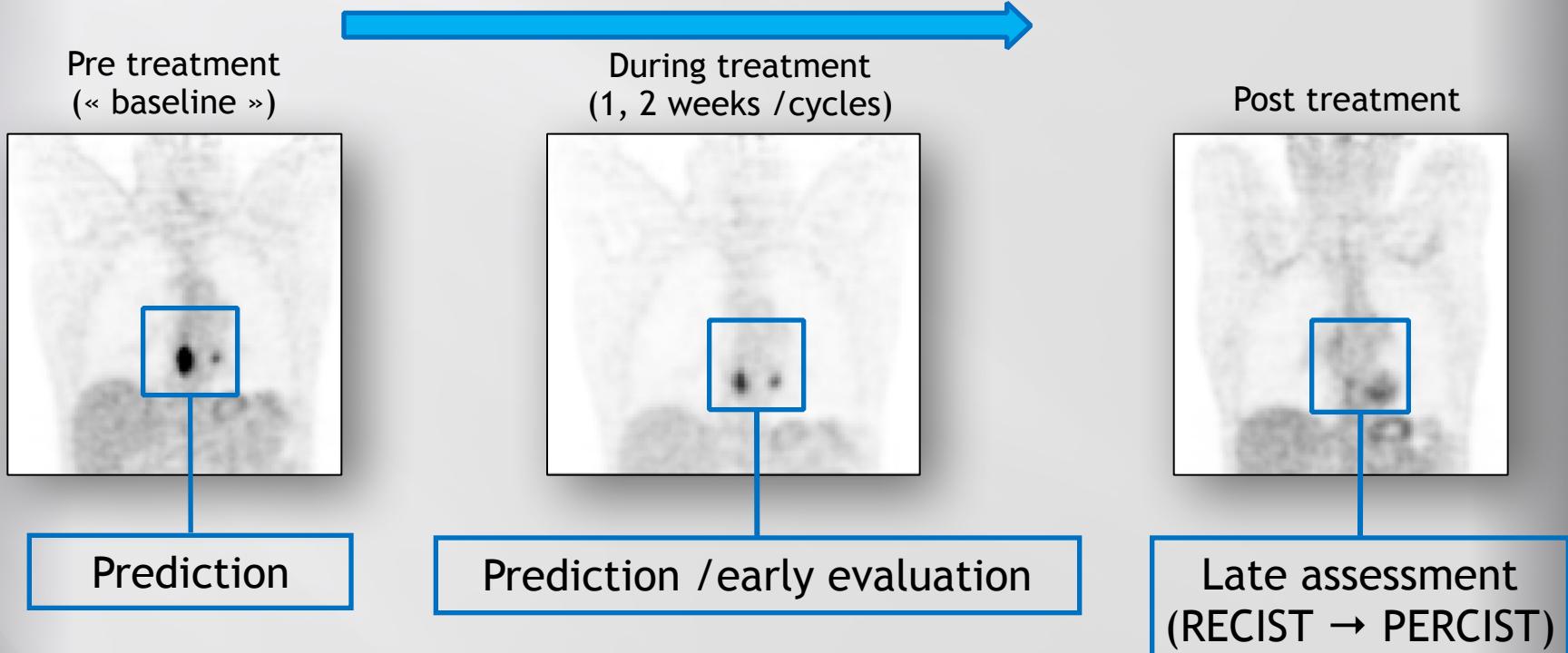
PET segmentation: motivations



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## PET/CT: from assessment to monitoring/predicting response to therapy

Treatment



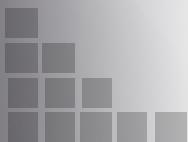
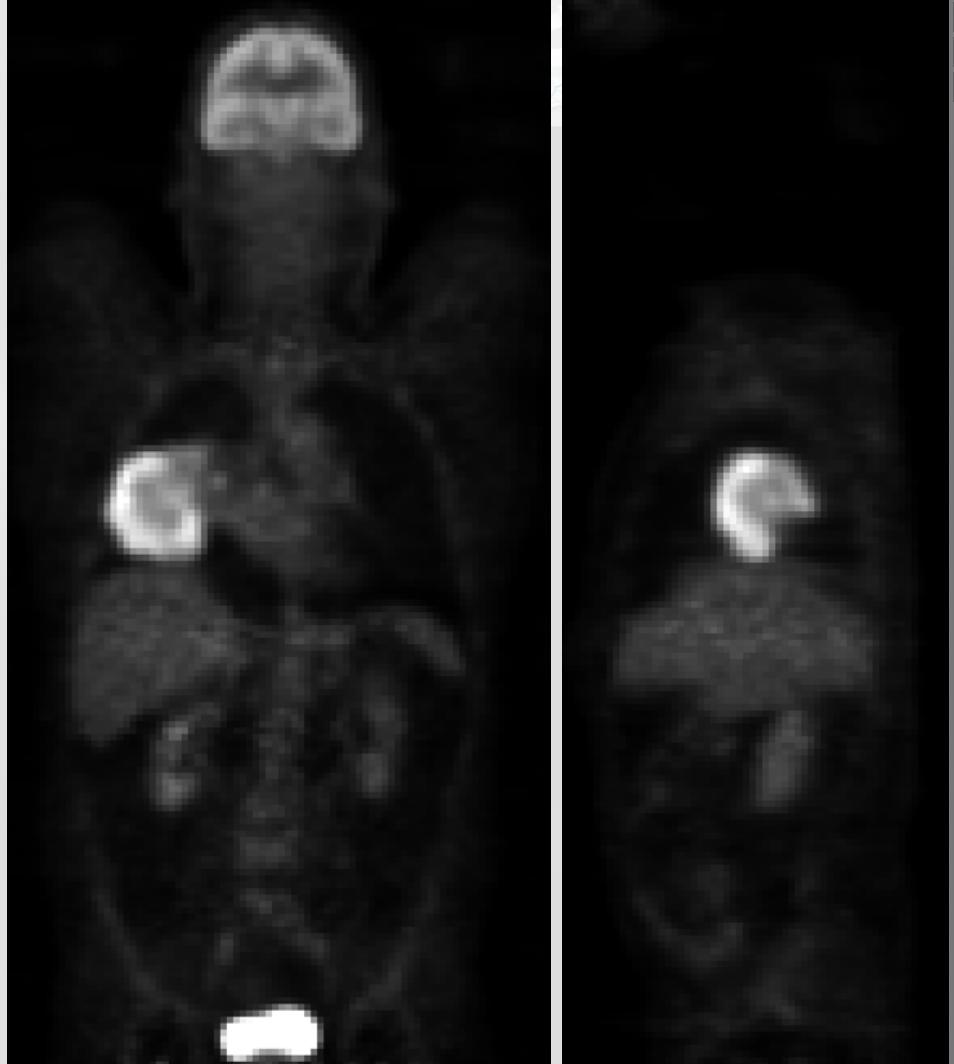
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PET segmentation: challenges

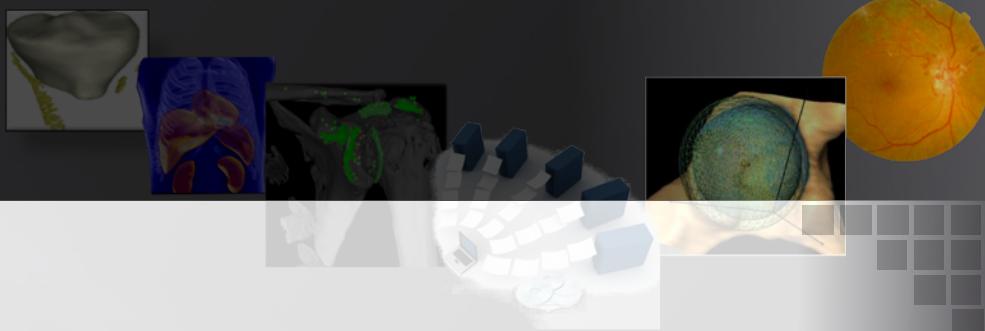


## Challenges in PET

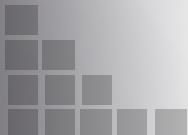
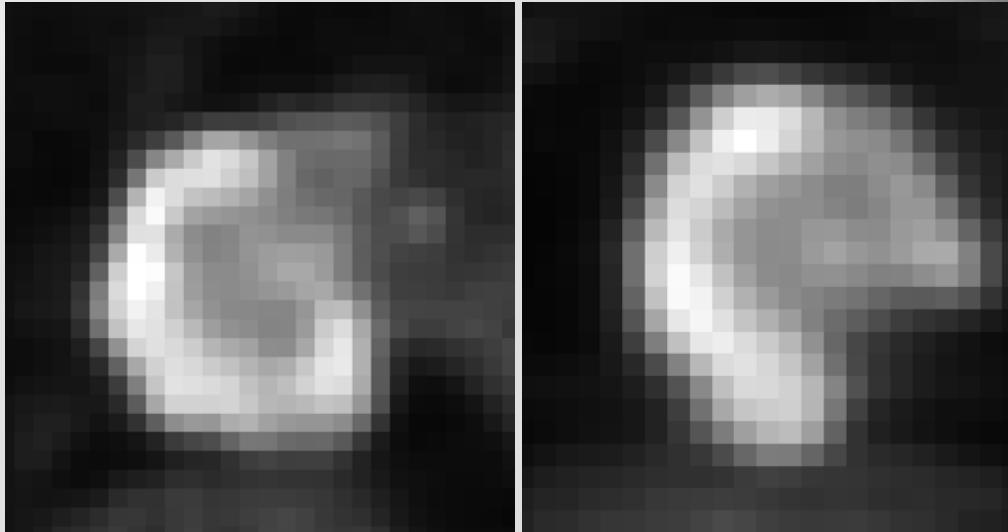


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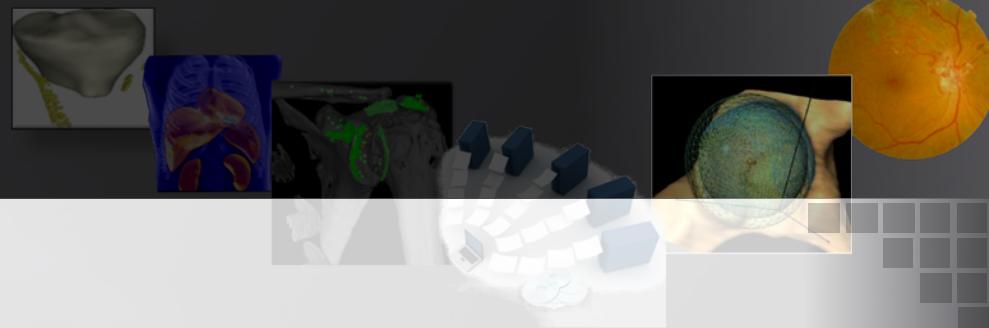


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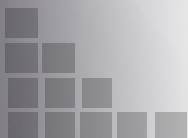
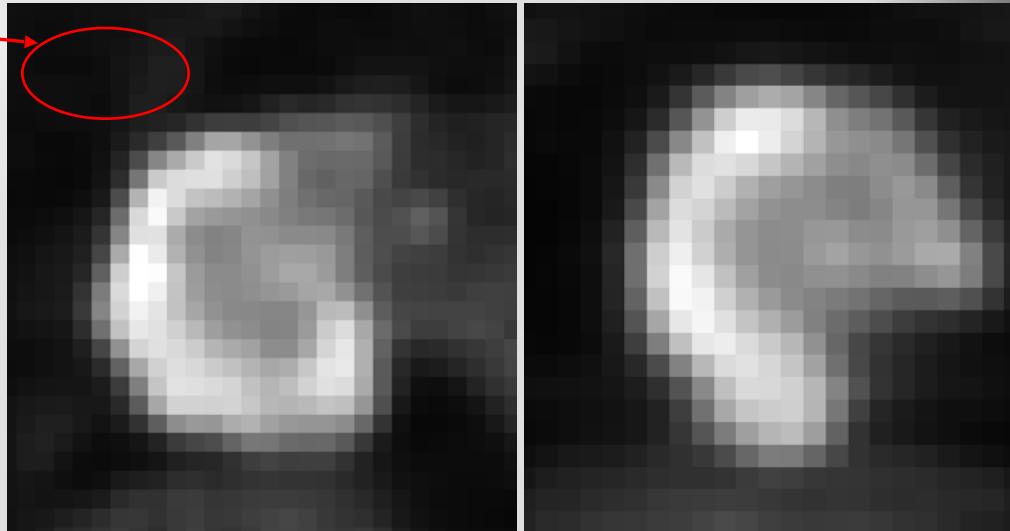
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PET segmentation: challenges



## Challenges in PET

- ✓ Limited signal to noise ratio  
(sensitivity, acq. duration...)



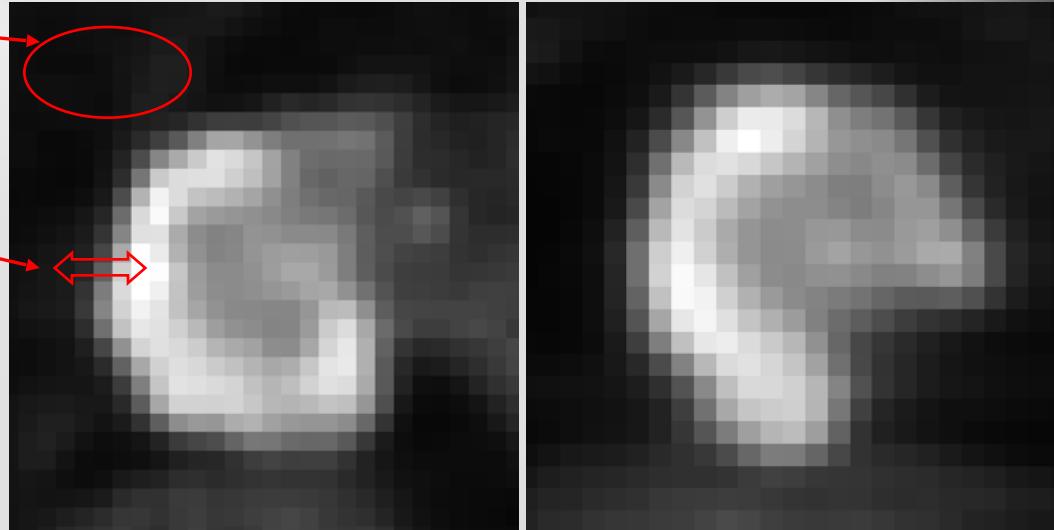
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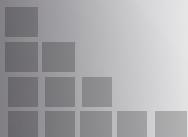


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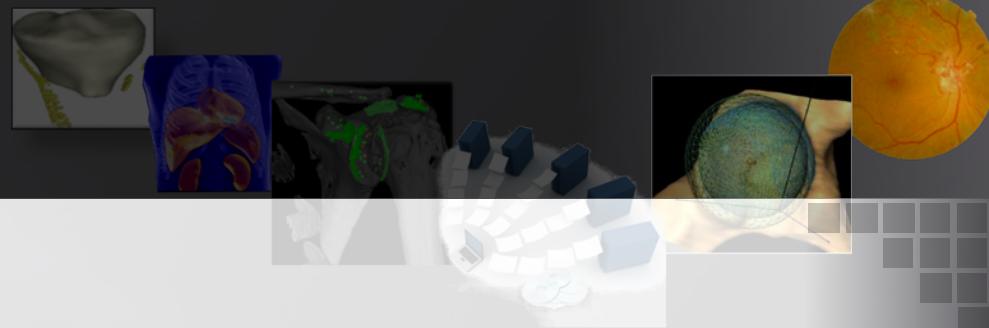


- ✓ Partial volume effects  
(limited spatial resolution)



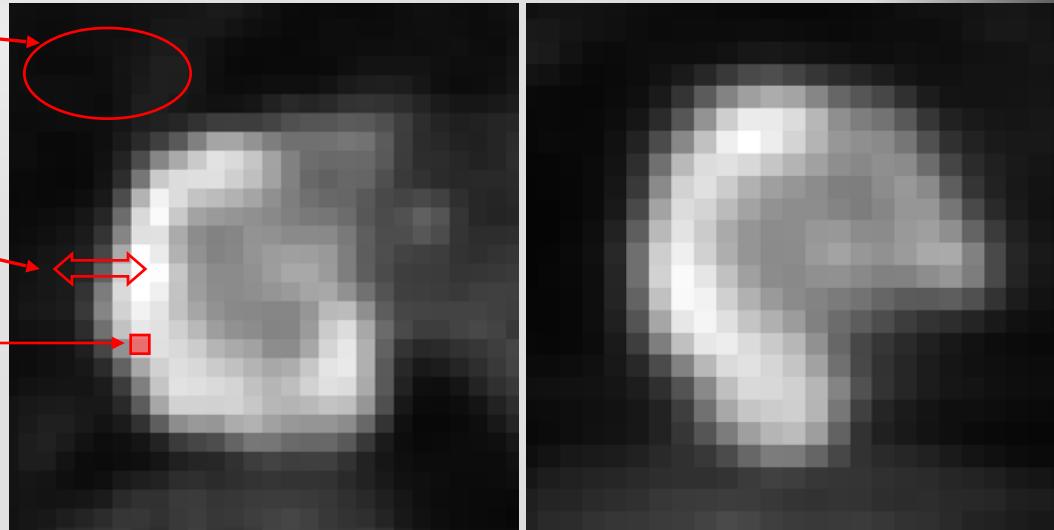
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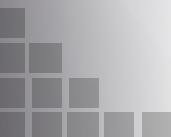


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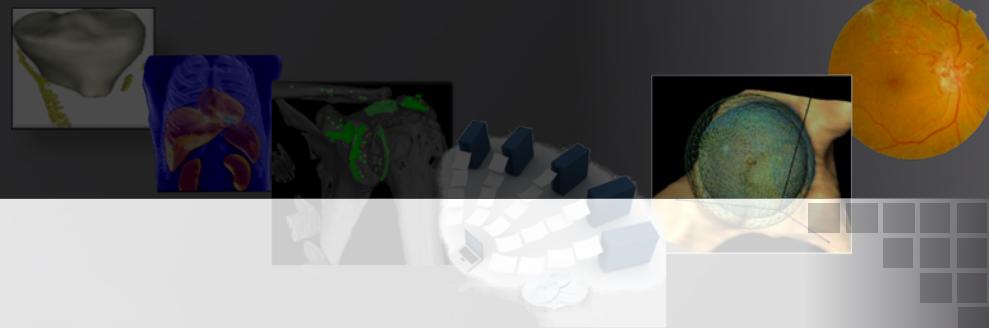


- ✓ Partial volume effects  
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- ✓ Spatial sampling  
(voxel size, grid matrix)



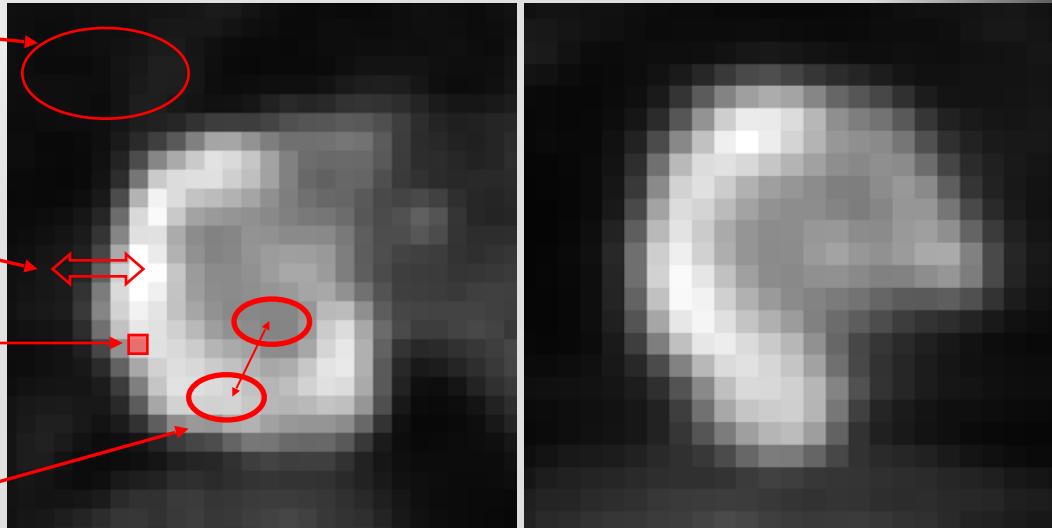
# Introduction

## PET segmentation: challenges



## Challenges in PET

- ✓ Limited signal to noise ratio  
(sensitivity, acq. duration...)



- ✓ Partial volume effects  
(limited spatial resolution)
- ✓ Spatial sampling  
(voxel size, grid matrix)
- ✓ Uptake heterogeneity
- ✓ Complex shapes



# PET segmentation

The era of thresholding



1997-2007

- One of the first papers (conference)
  - Suggested the use of a fixed threshold of 42% of the max

Sixth Conference on Radioimmunodetection and  
Radioimmunotherapy of Cancer

*Supplement to Cancer*

## Segmentation of Lung Lesion Volume by Adaptive Positron Emission Tomography Image Thresholding

**Yusuf E. Erdi, D.Sc.<sup>1</sup>**

**O. Mawlawi, M.Sc.<sup>2</sup>**

**Steven M. Larson, M.D.<sup>2</sup>**

**M. Imbriaco, M.D.<sup>2</sup>**

**H. Yeung, M.D.<sup>2</sup>**

**R. Finn, Ph.D.<sup>1</sup>**

**John L. Humm, Ph.D.<sup>1</sup>**

**BACKGROUND.** It is common protocol in radionuclide therapies to administer a tracer dose of a radiopharmaceutical, determine its lesion uptake and biodistribution by gamma imaging, and then use this information to determine the most effective therapeutic dose. This treatment planning approach can be used to quantitate accurately the activity and volume of lesions and organs with positron emission tomography (PET). In this article, the authors focus on the specification of appropriate volumes of interest (Vol) using PET in association with computed tomography (CT).

# PET segmentation

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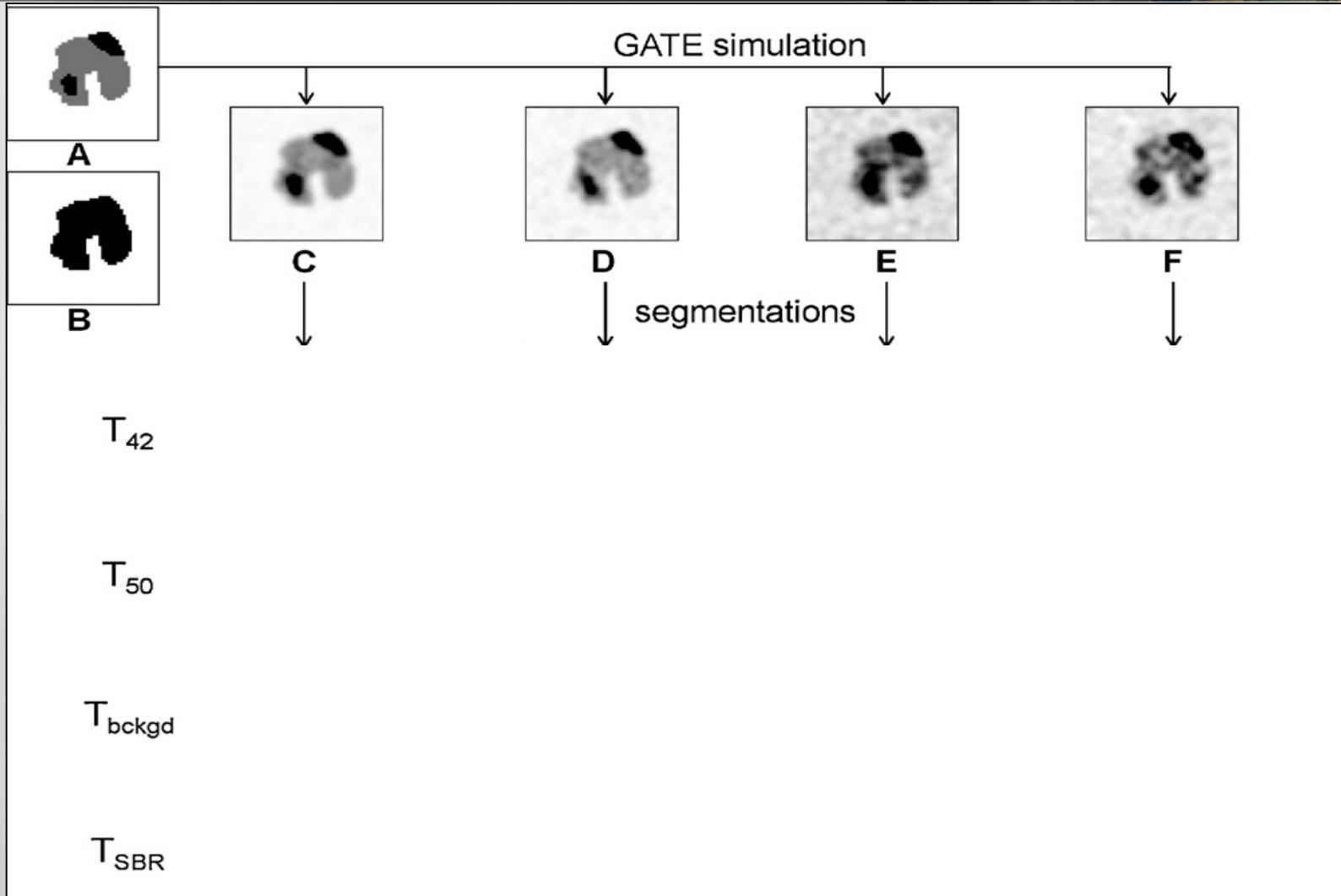
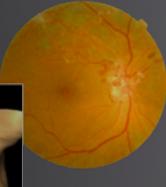
- Numerous subsequent papers for thresholding<sup>1</sup>

- Suggested other fixed threshold values (between 30 and 80% of SUVmax / SUVpeak ..., or >SUV 2.5, 2.0 ...)
- Extended the paradigm to adaptive thresholding
  - Iterative approaches
  - Taking into account the background value and/or contrast
  - Optimization using phantom acquisitions...

1. A.-S. Dewalle-Vignion, *et al.* Les méthodes de seuillage en TEP : un état de l'art. *Médecine Nucléaire* 2010

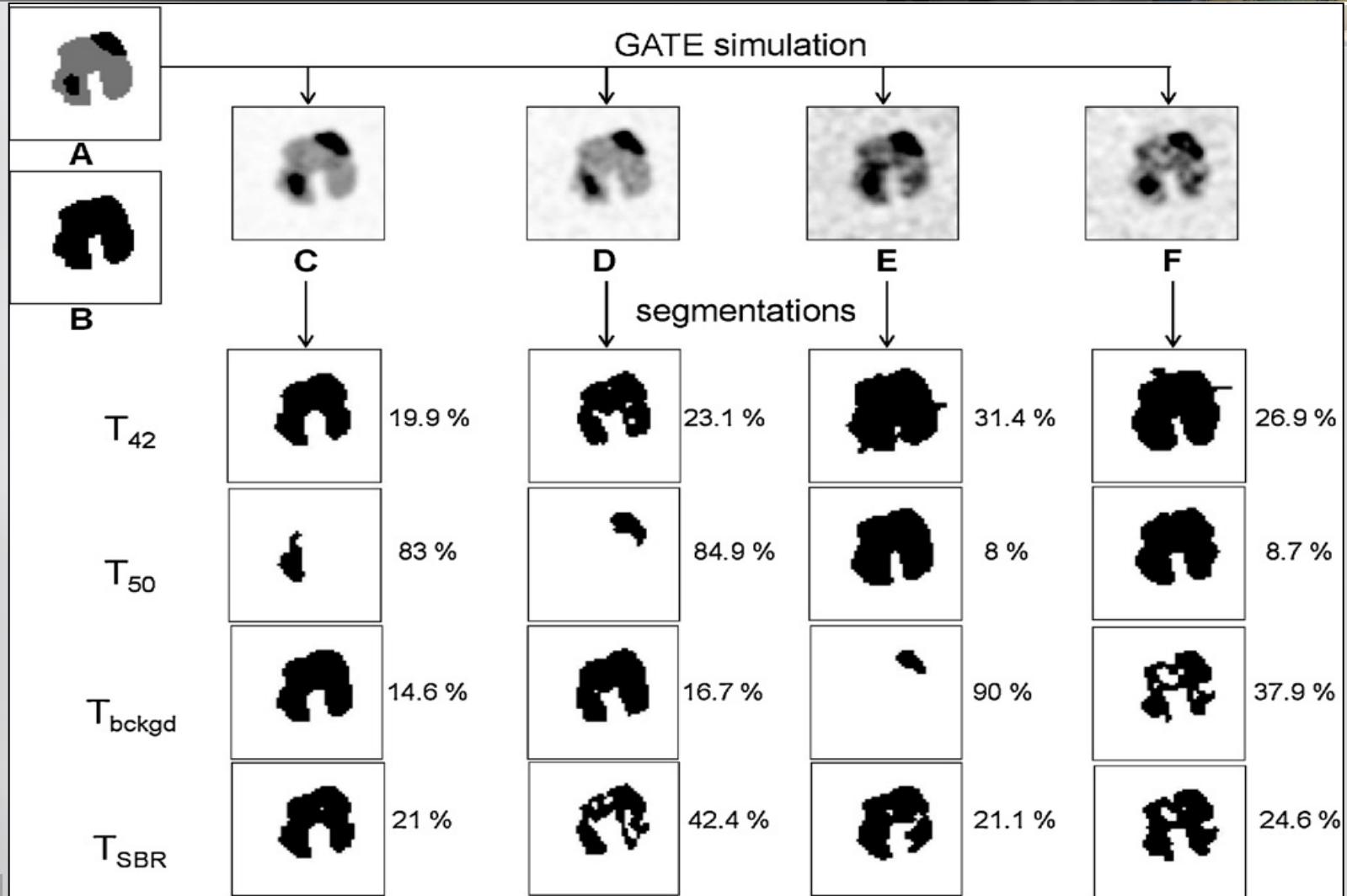
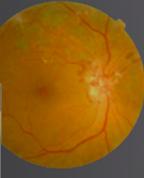
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The era of thresholding



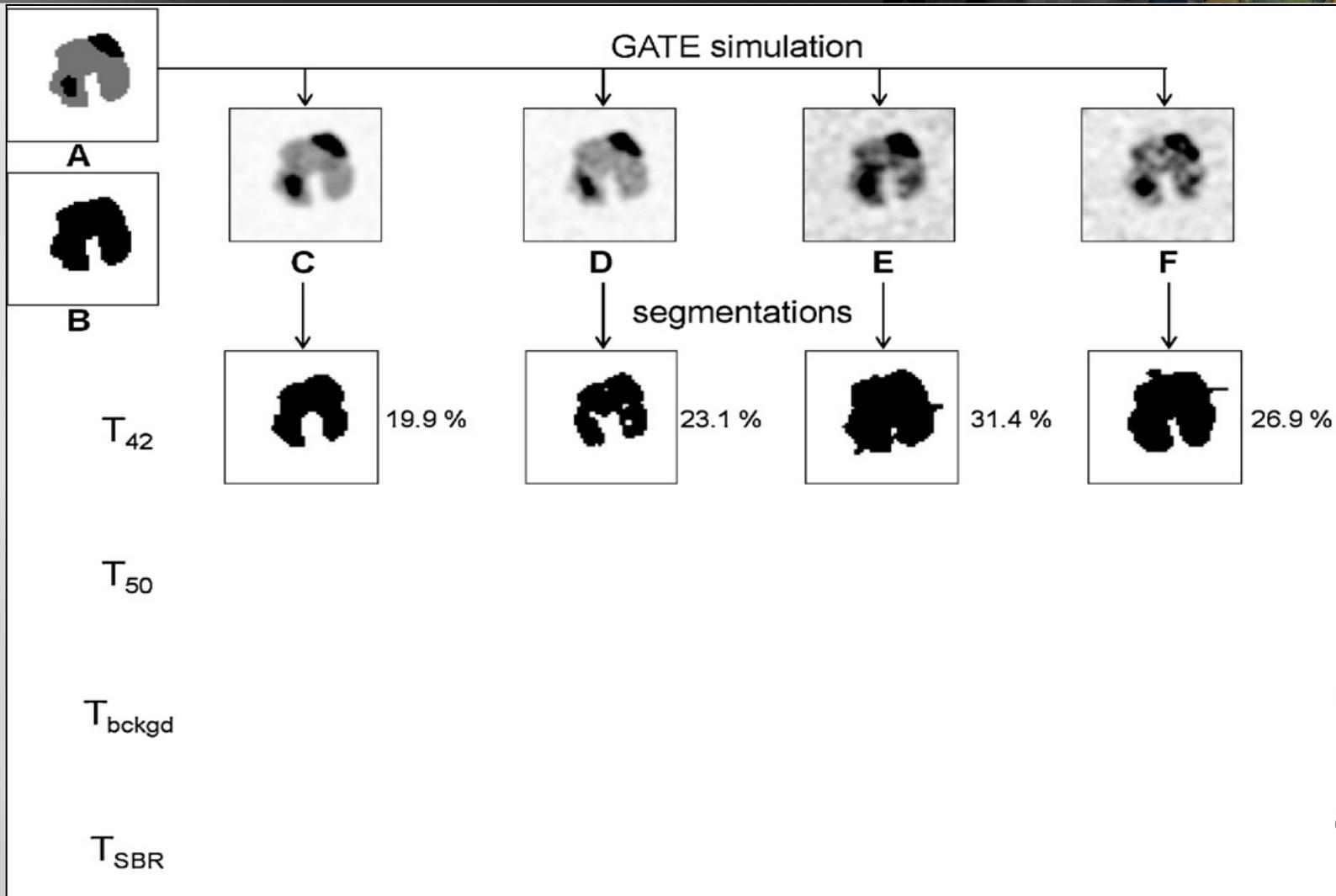
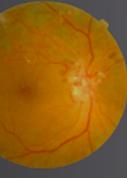
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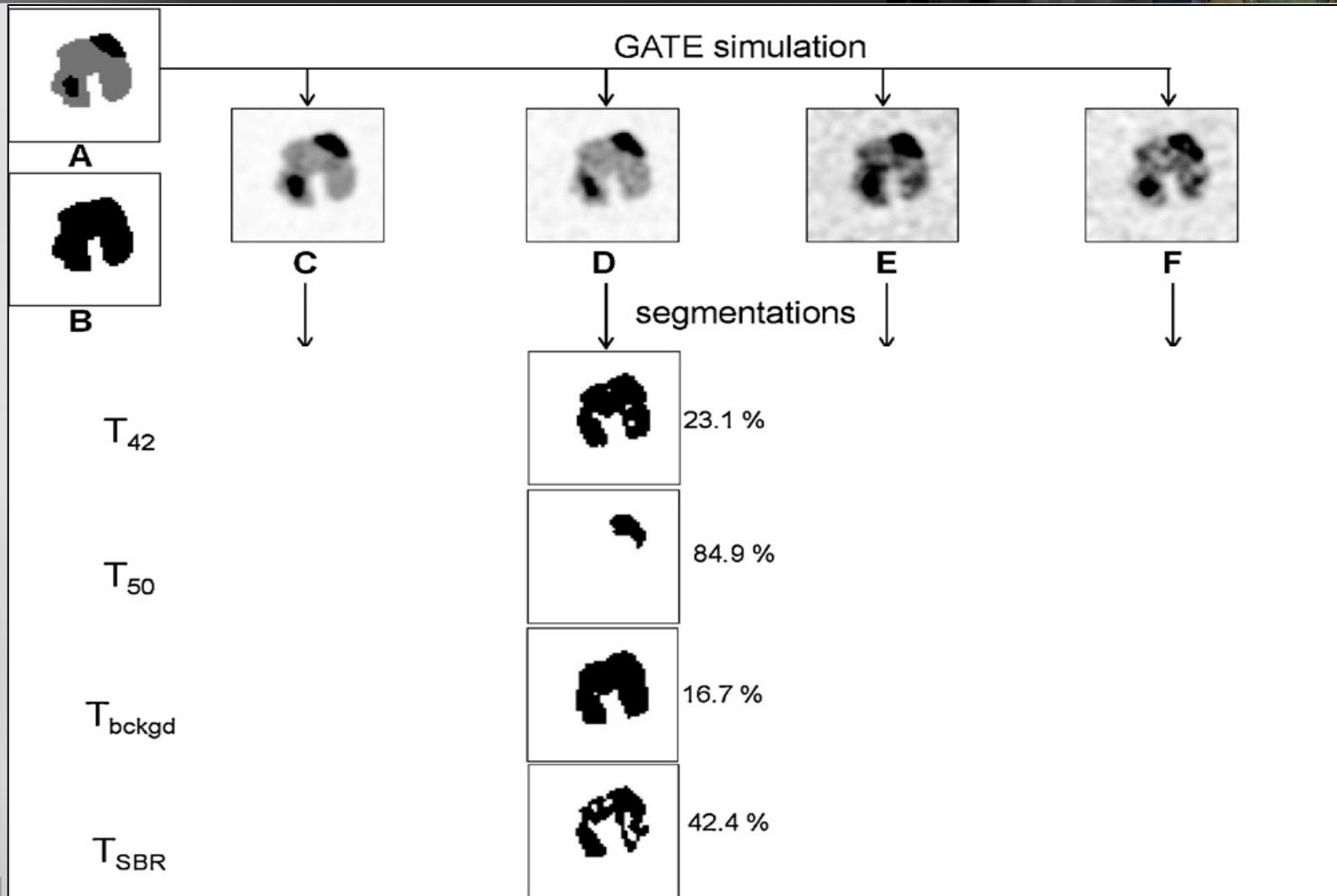
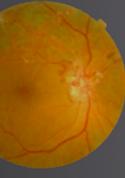
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The era of thresholding



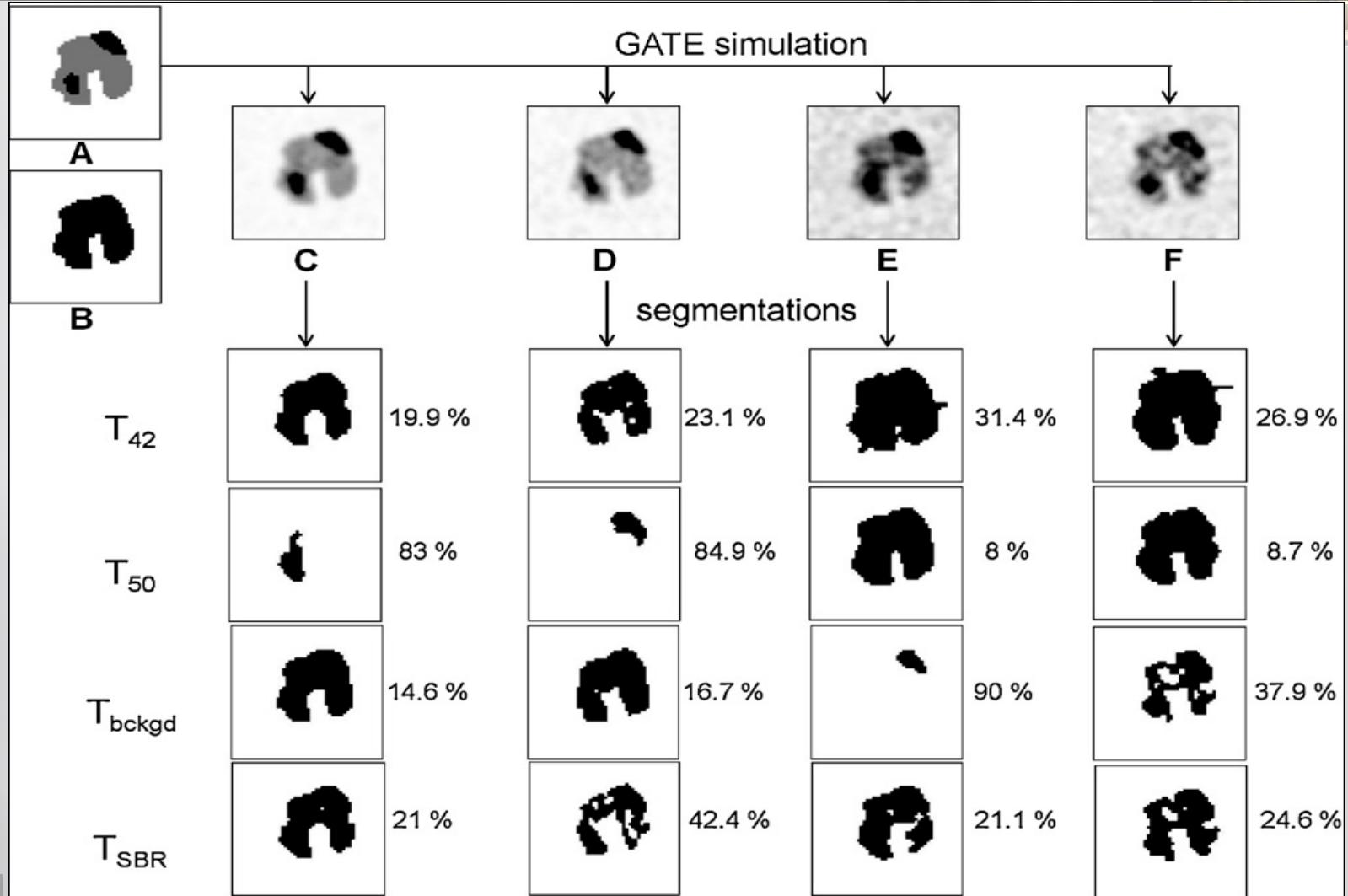
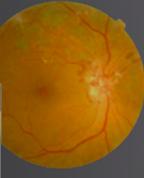
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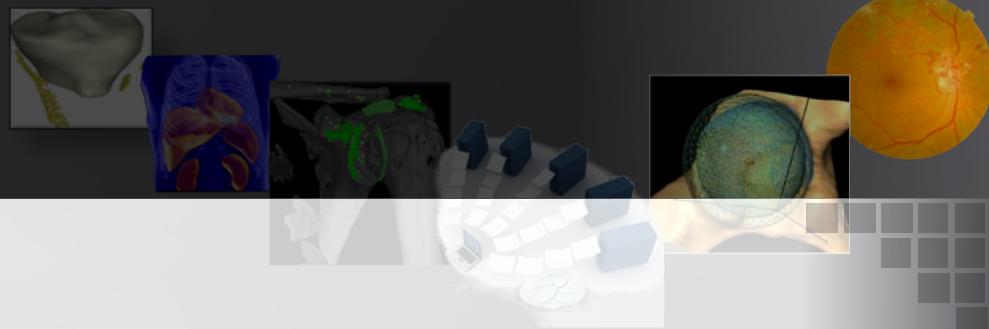
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The era of thresholding



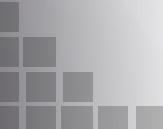
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The era of thresholding



1997-2007

- MATV delineation directly on PET
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    - **Not accurate, not robust and should not be used!**  
→ even manual delineation is preferable! <sup>1</sup>



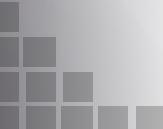
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    - high inter and intra observer variability <sup>2</sup>  
→ use consensus of several observers
    - time consuming



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  - Manual delineation
    - high inter and intra observer variability <sup>2</sup>  
→ use consensus of several observers
    - time consuming
  - Adaptive threshold
    - can provide good results for homogeneous uptake within MATV and sufficient tumor-to-background contrast
    - requires center-specific optimization, user interaction
    - not robust versus heterogeneous uptake and/or low T-B contrast

1. Hatt, *et al.* Regarding Autocontouring and Manual Contouring: Which Is the Better Method for Target Delineation Using 18F-FDG PET/CT in Non-Small Cell Lung Cancer? *J Nucl Med* 2011  
2. Hatt, *et al.* Reproducibility of 18F-FDG and 3'-Deoxy-3'-18F-Fluorothymidine PET Tumor Volume Measurements, *J Nucl Med* 2010

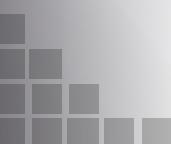
# PET segmentation

Improving over thresholding using adaptive region growing



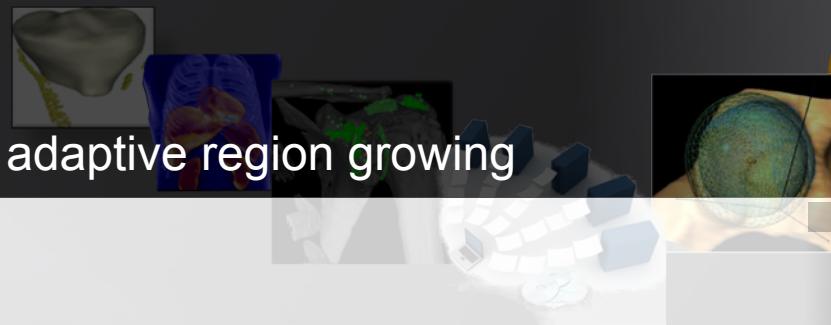
## ROVER method

- Principle: region growing with locally adaptive thresholding (in order to adapt to heterogeneous lesions)
- No pre processing but optimization on phantom images (parameter = 39%)
- Validated on simulated images and clinical with respect to expert contours
- Implemented in the ROVER™ software (<http://www.abx.de/rover>)



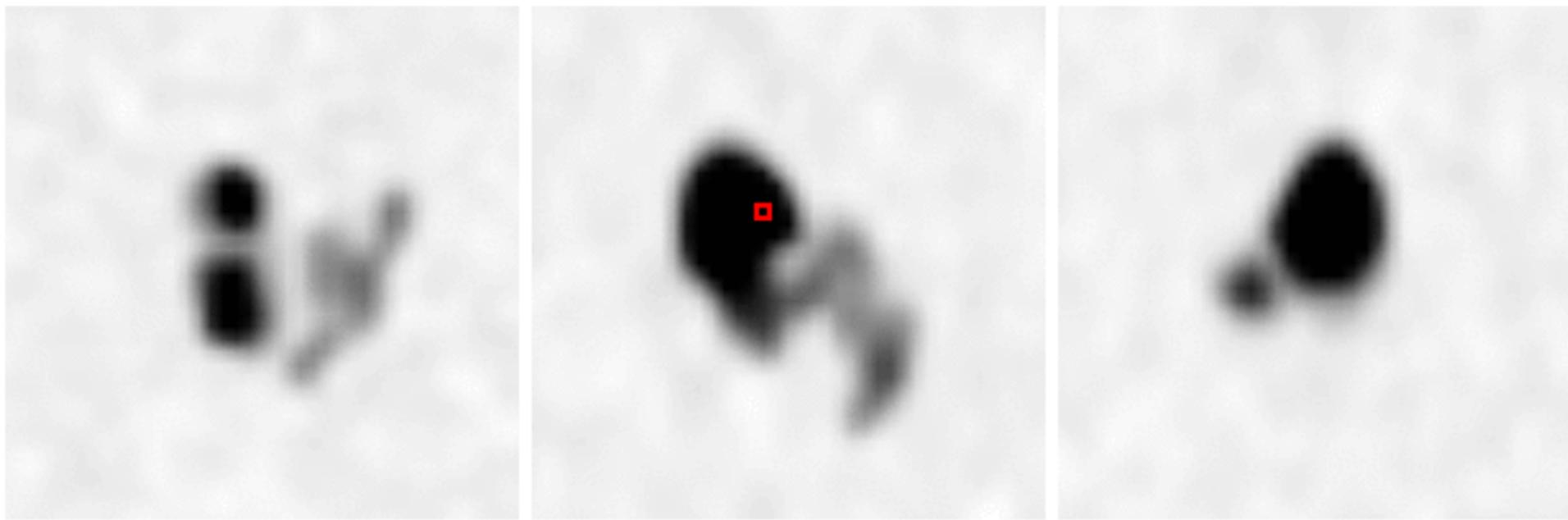
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# PET segmentation

Beyond thresholds: the era of advanced segmentation paradigms



2007-2010

## • Two important papers in 2007

Eur J Nucl Med Mol Imaging (2007) 34:1427–1438

DOI 10.1007/s00259-006-0363-4

ORIGINAL ARTICLE

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IOP PUBLISHING

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PHYSICS IN MEDICINE AND BIOLOGY

doi:10.1088/0031-9155/52/12/010

### Fuzzy hidden Markov chains segmentation for volume determination and quantitation in PET

M Hatt<sup>1</sup>, F Lamare<sup>1</sup>, N Boussion<sup>1</sup>, A Turzo<sup>1,2</sup>, C Collet<sup>3</sup>, F Salzenstein<sup>4</sup>,  
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Citations ~260

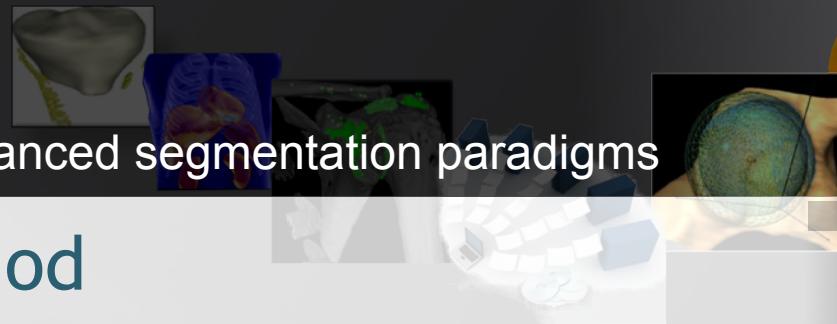
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# PET segmentation

Beyond thresholds: the era of advanced segmentation paradigms



## Gradient-based method

- Principle: determine contours as gradients in the watershed transform of the pre processed image (contour detection is sensitive to noise and blur)
- Requires pre processing (denoising+deblurring), binary segmentation only
- Validated on histopathology and real phantoms (+robustness with multiple scanners)<sup>1,2</sup>
- Implemented in the PETedge<sup>3</sup> software (MIMvista) as a “black box” requiring a manual initialization

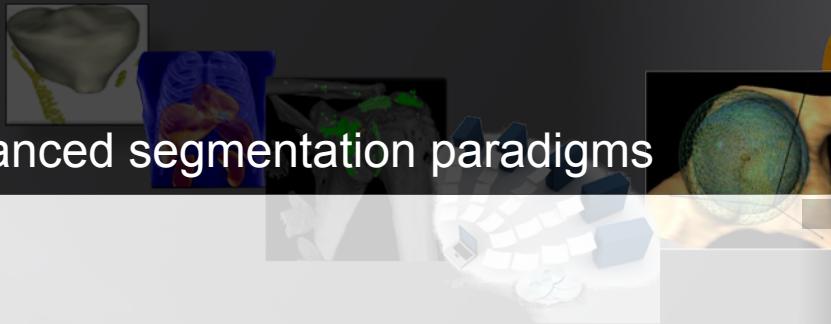
1 Geets, *et al.* A gradient-based method for segmenting FDG PET images: methodology and validation. *Eur J Nucl Med Mol Imaging*. 2007

2 Wanet, *et al.* Gradient-based delineation of the primary GTV on FDG-PET in non-small cell lung cancer: a comparison with threshold-based approaches, CT and surgical specimens. *Radiother Oncol*. 2011

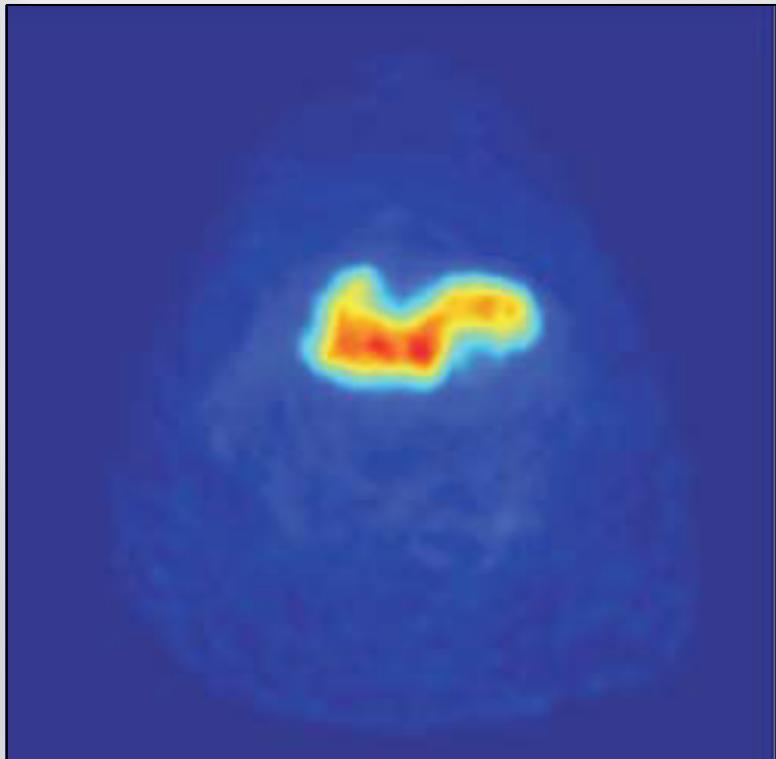
3 [http://downloads.mimsoftware.com/Tissue\\_Segmentation\\_in\\_PET\\_image\\_Volumes.pdf](http://downloads.mimsoftware.com/Tissue_Segmentation_in_PET_image_Volumes.pdf)

# PET segmentation

Beyond thresholds: the era of advanced segmentation paradigms



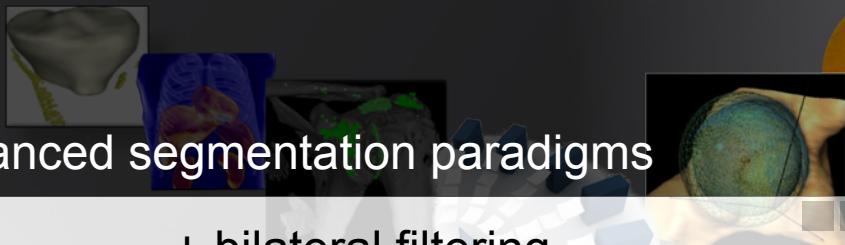
Original PET



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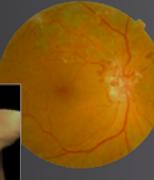
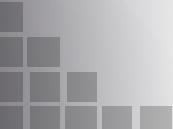
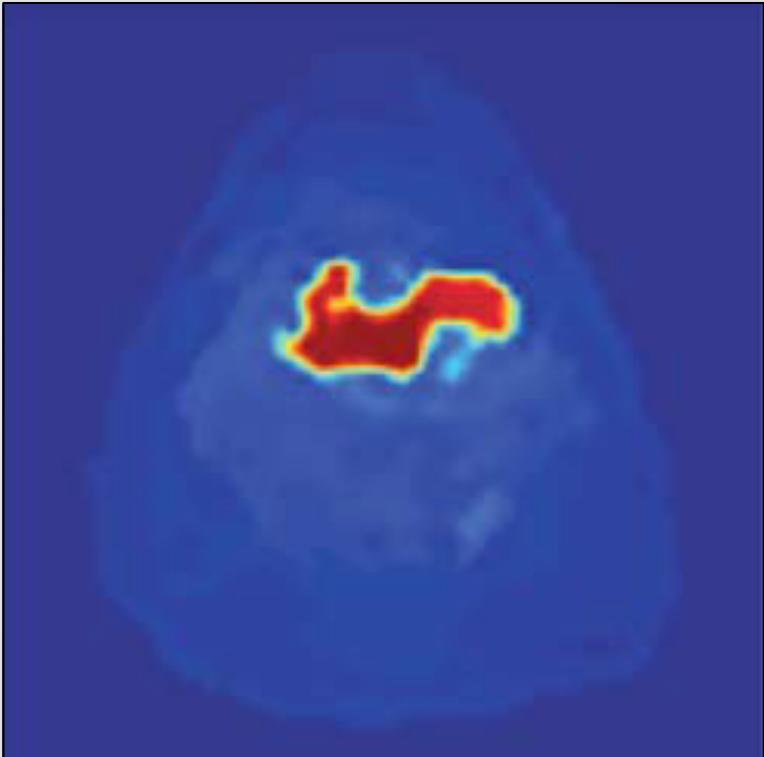
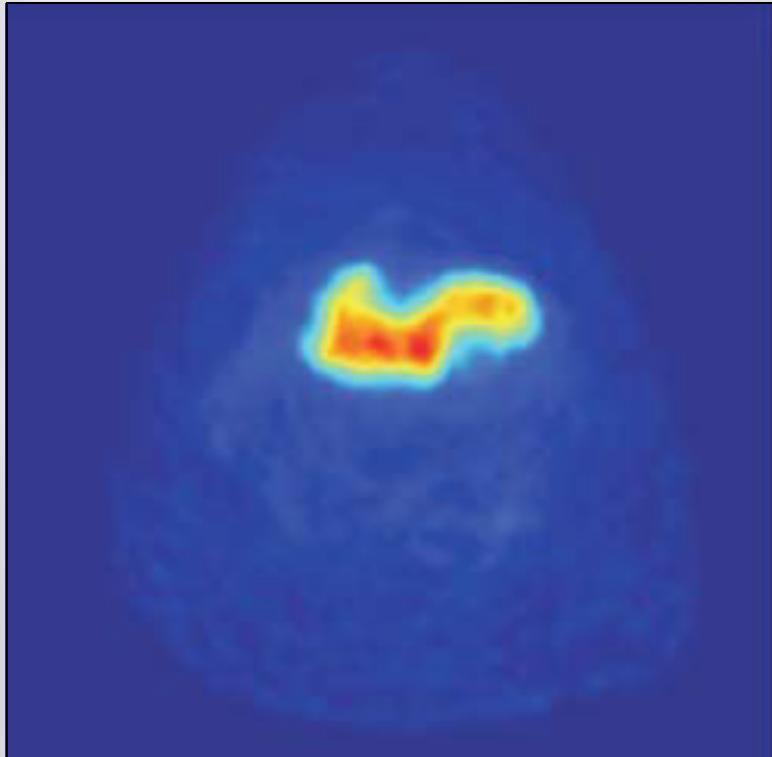
# PET segmentation

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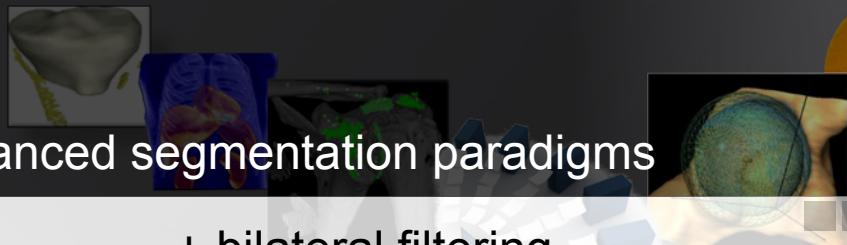
Original PET

- + bilateral filtering
- + iterative deconvolution



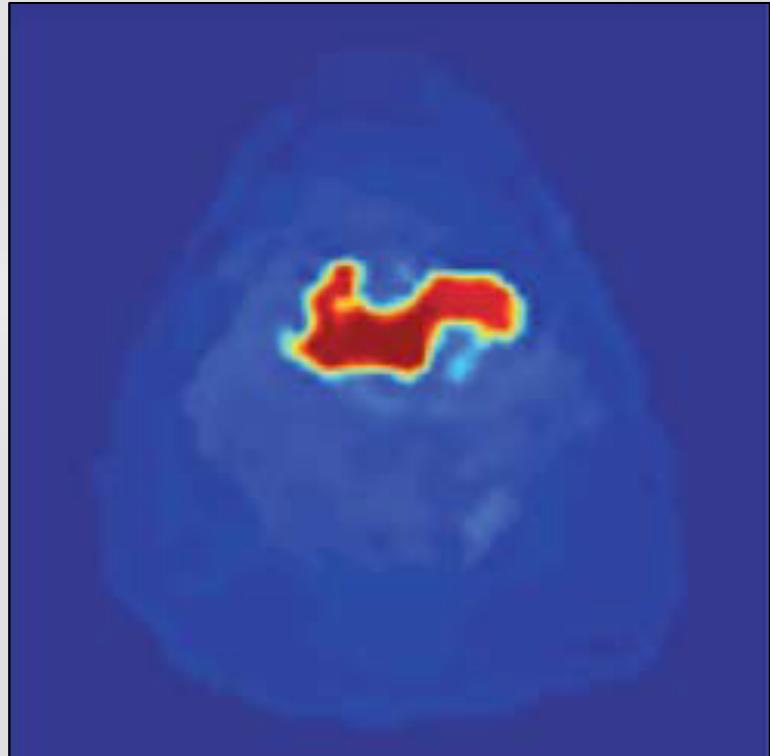
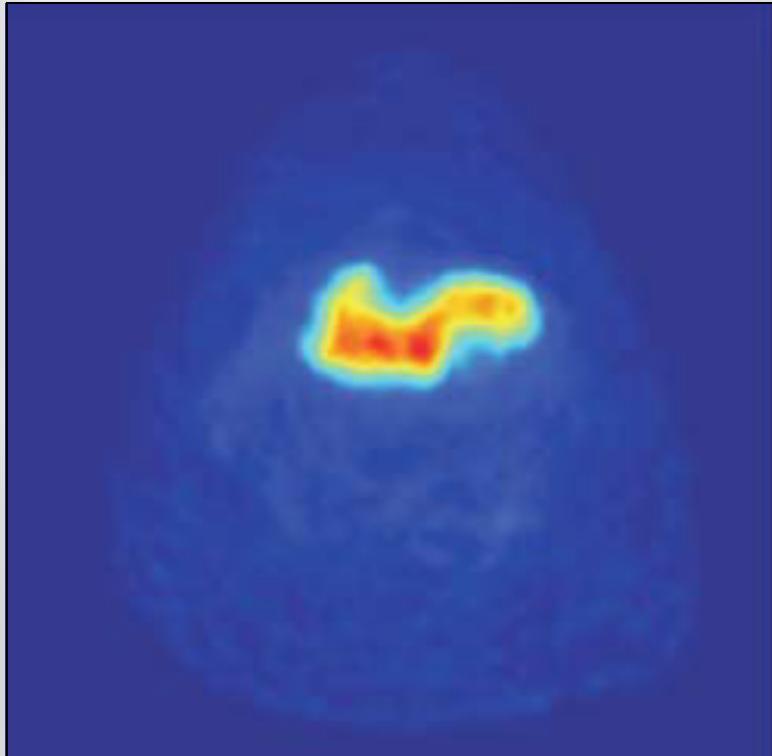
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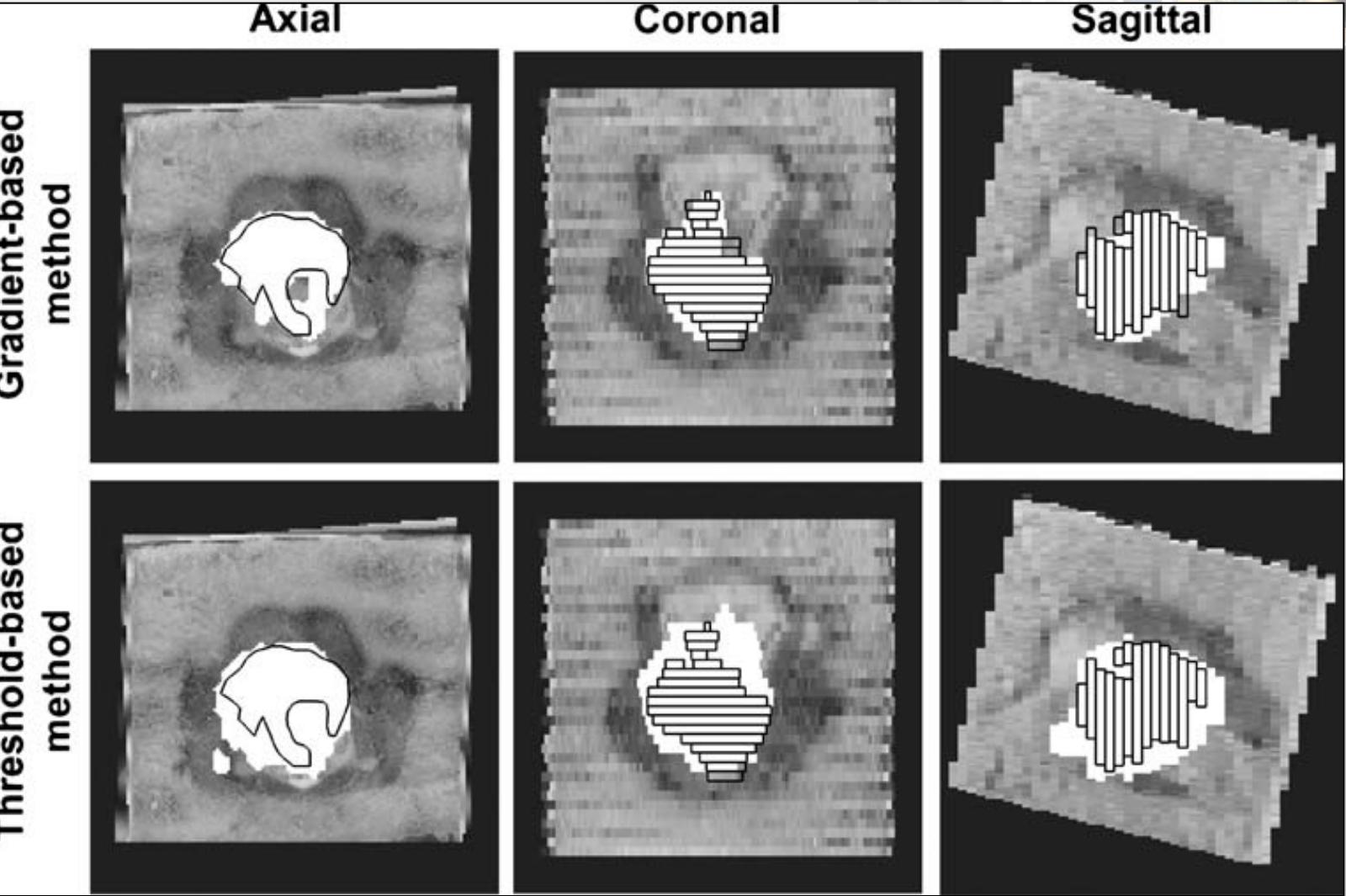
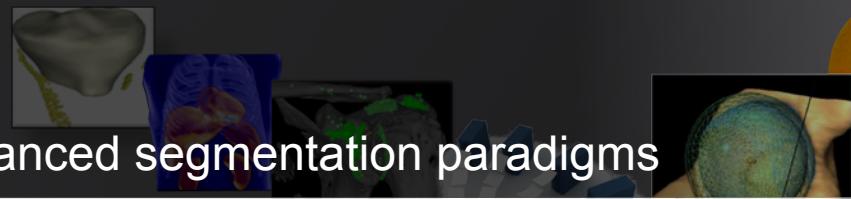
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Contours detection

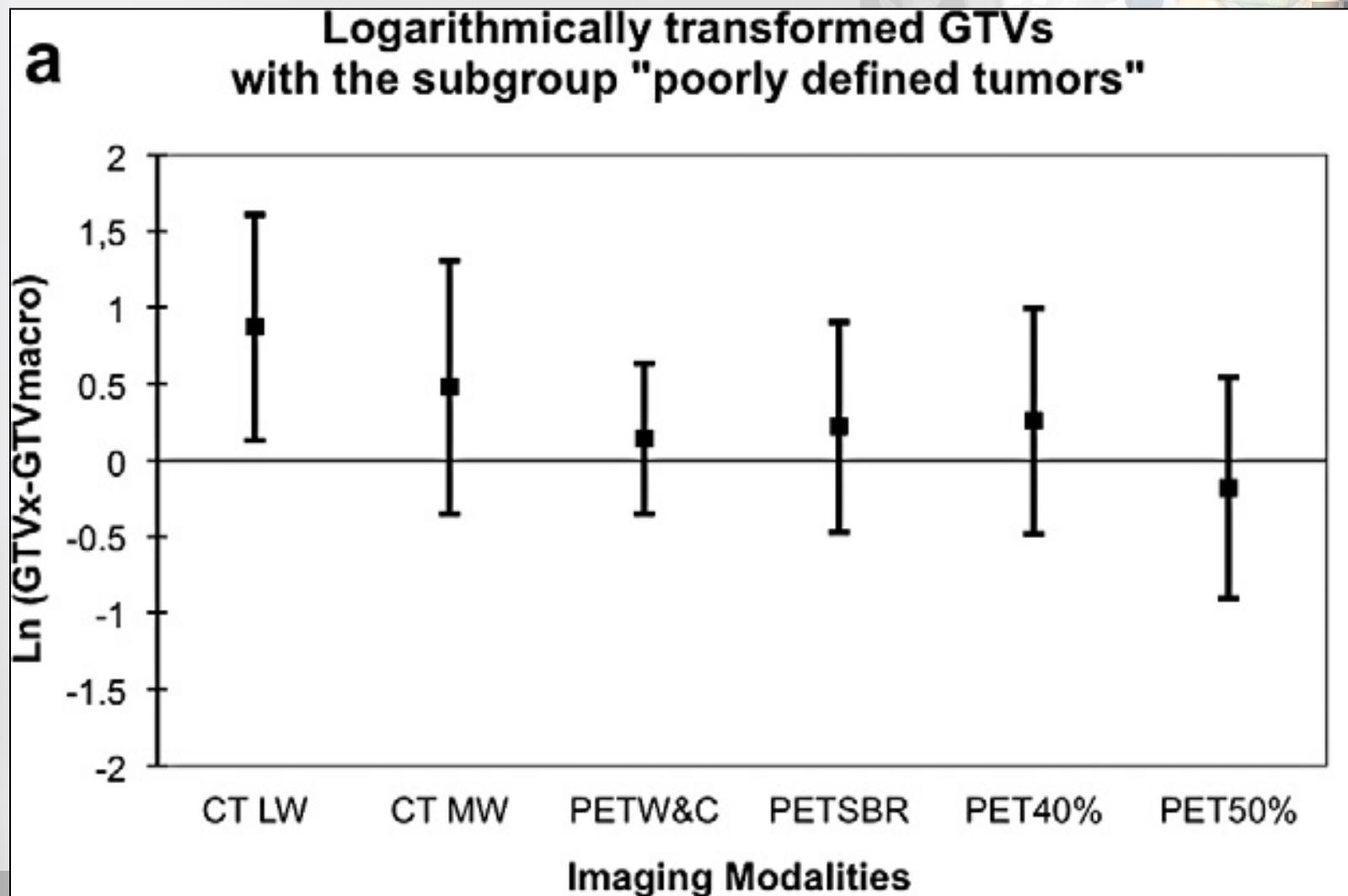
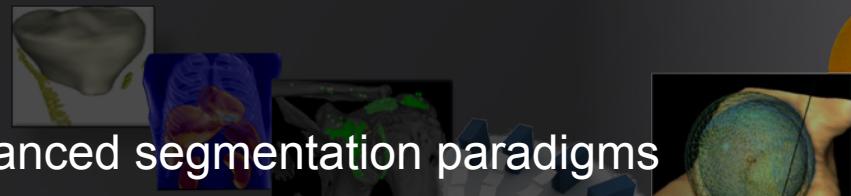
# PET segmentation

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# PET segmentation

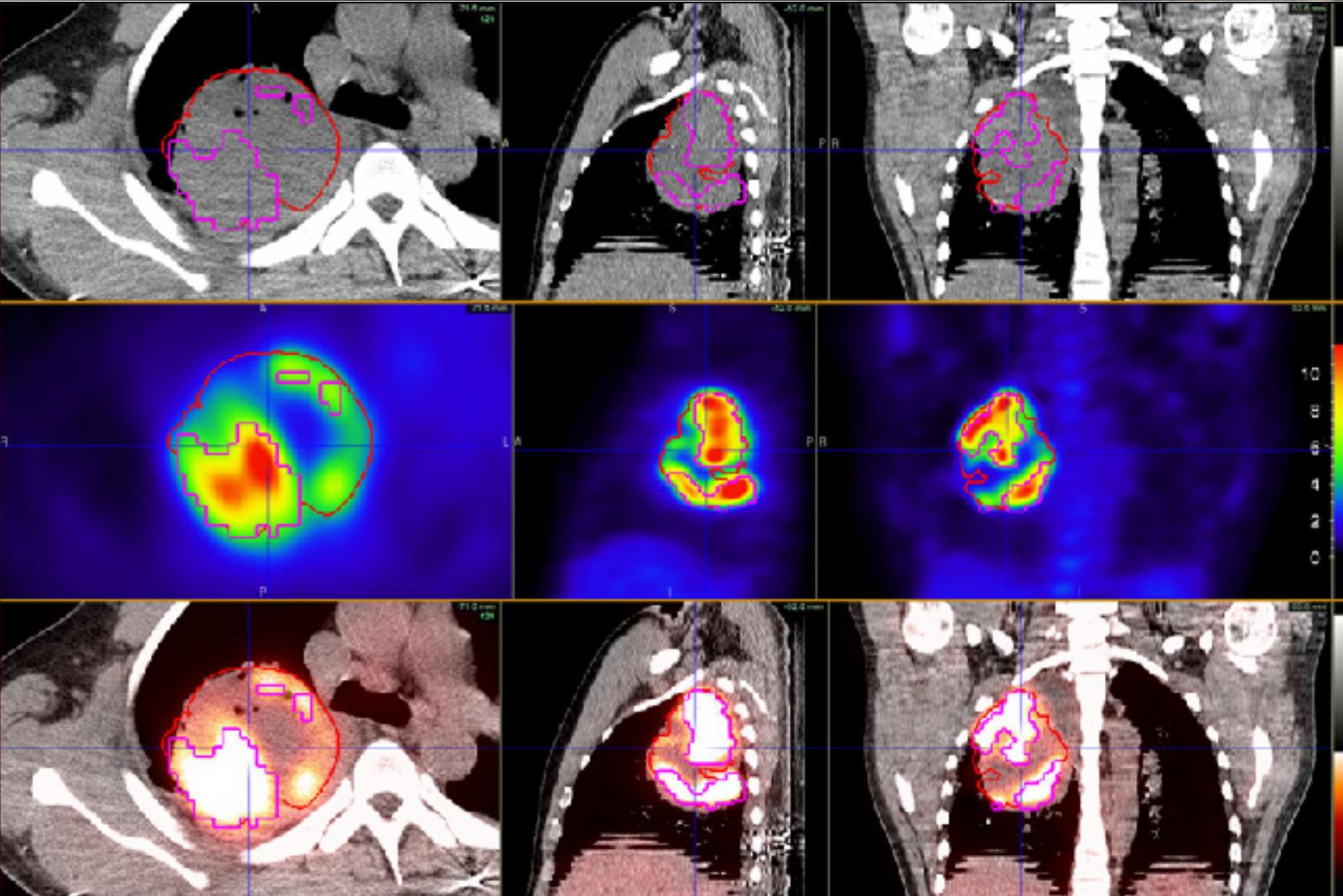
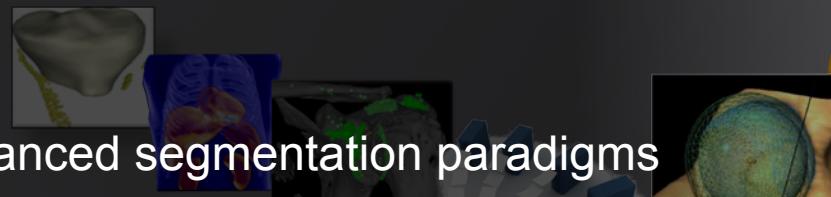
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Wanet, et al. Gradient-based delineation of the primary GTV on FDG-PET in non-small cell lung cancer: a comparison with threshold-based approaches, CT and surgical specimens.  
*Radiother Oncol.* 2011

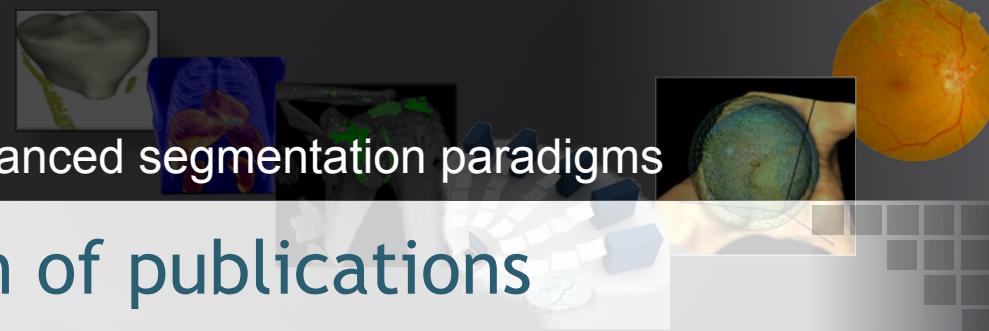
# PET segmentation

Beyond thresholds: the era of advanced segmentation paradigms

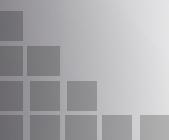
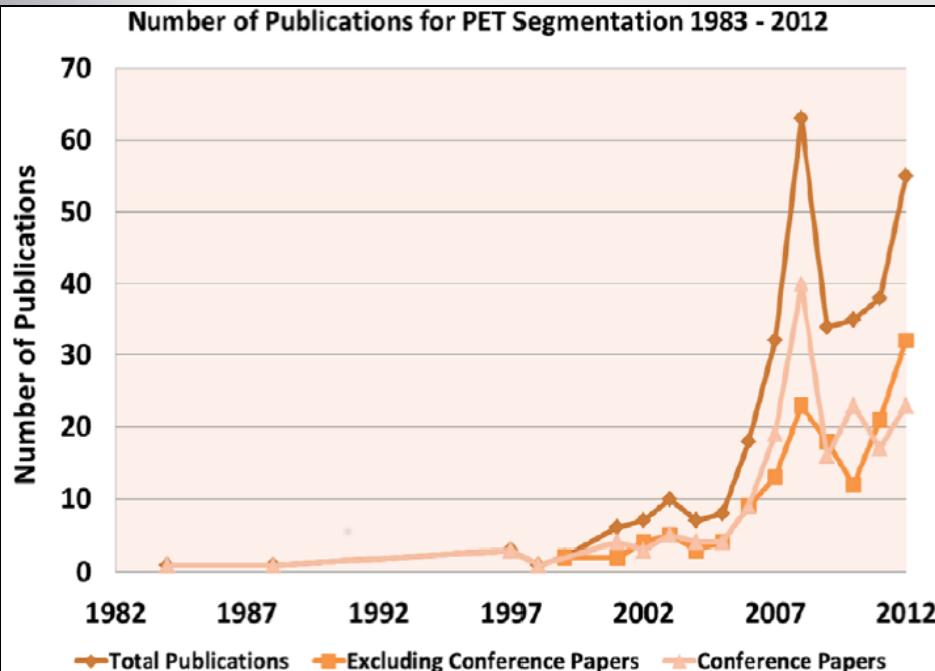


# PET segmentation

Beyond thresholds: the era of advanced segmentation paradigms

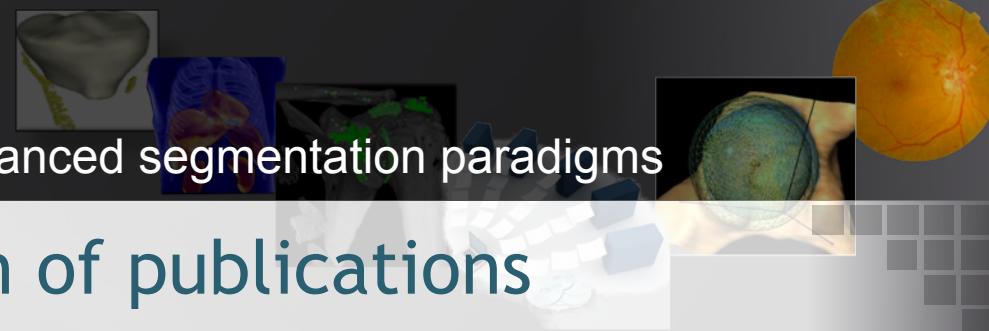


## After 2007: explosion of publications

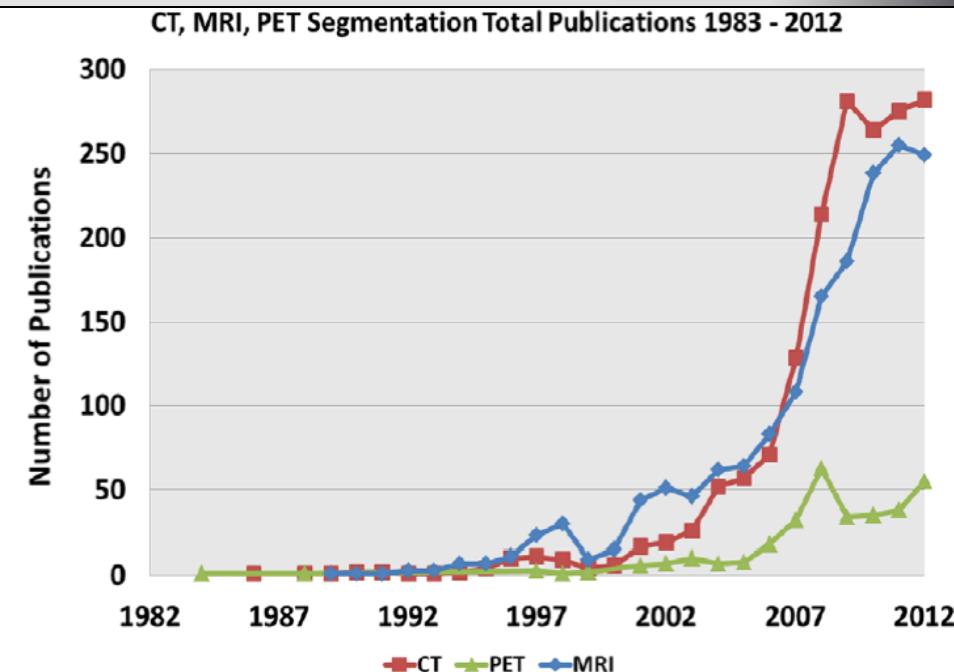
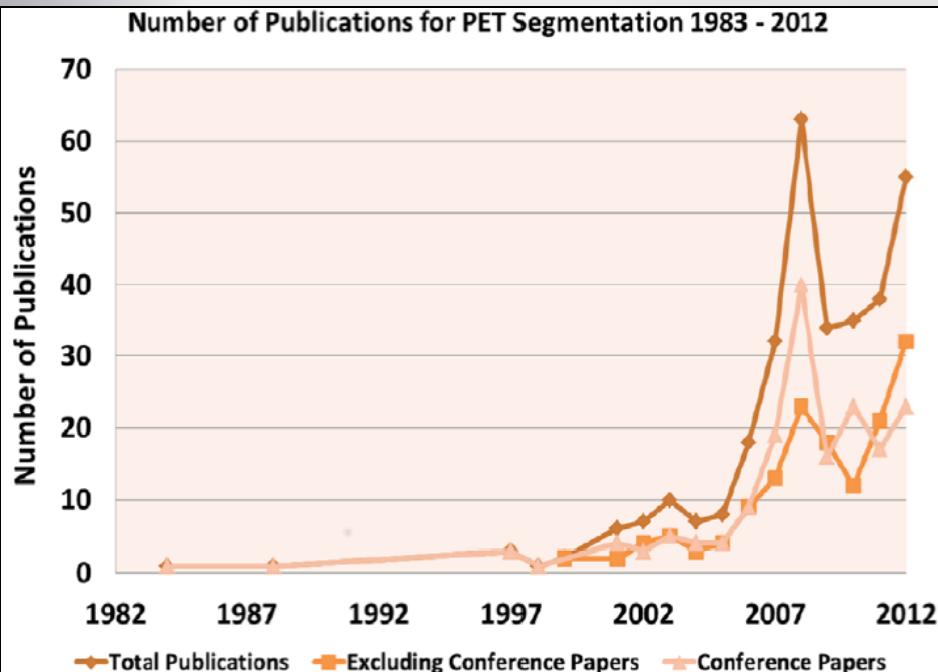


# PET segmentation

Beyond thresholds: the era of advanced segmentation paradigms



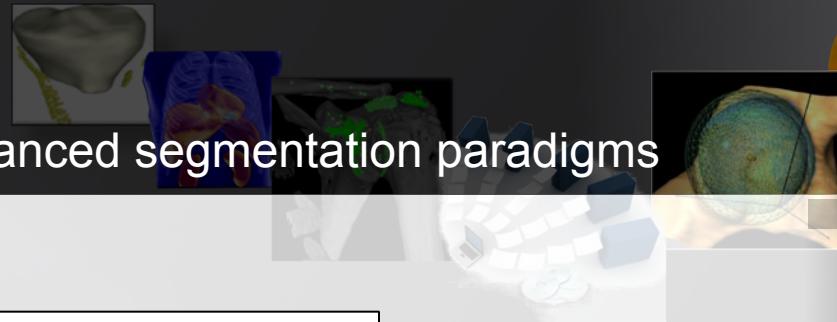
## After 2007: explosion of publications



Foster B, et al. A review on segmentation of positron emission tomography images. *Comput Biol Med*. 2014

# PET segmentation

Beyond thresholds: the era of advanced segmentation paradigms



## Other reviews:

Eur J Nucl Med Mol Imaging  
DOI 10.1007/s00259-010-1423-3

REVIEW ARTICLE

### PET-guided delineation of radiation therapy treatment volumes: a survey of image segmentation techniques

Habib Zaidi · Issam El Naqa

Cancer/Radiothérapie 16 (2012) 70–81



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Revue générale

Méthodologies de définition automatique des volumes métaboliquement actifs en TEP : évaluation et perspectives

*Metabolically active volumes automatic delineation methodologies in PET imaging: Review and perspectives*

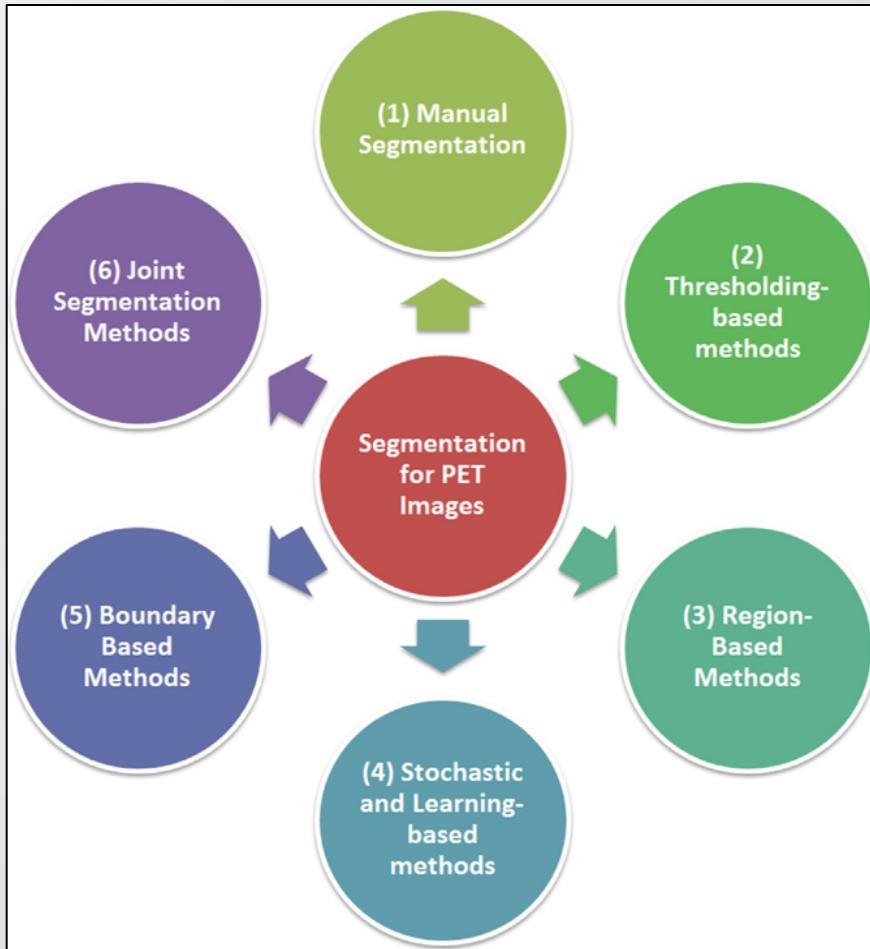
M. Hatt<sup>a,\*</sup>, N. Boussion<sup>a,b</sup>, C. Cheze-Le Rest<sup>a</sup>, D. Visvikis<sup>a</sup>, O. Pradier<sup>a,b</sup>

# PET segmentation

Beyond thresholds: the era of advanced segmentation paradigms



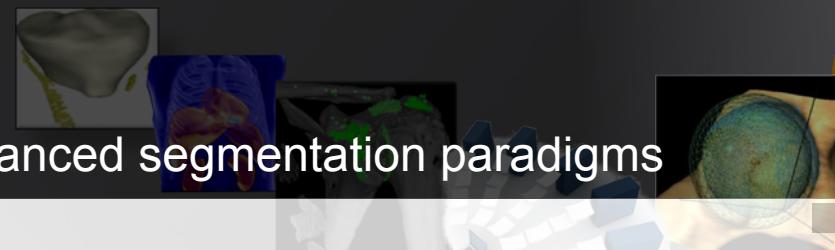
## Review:



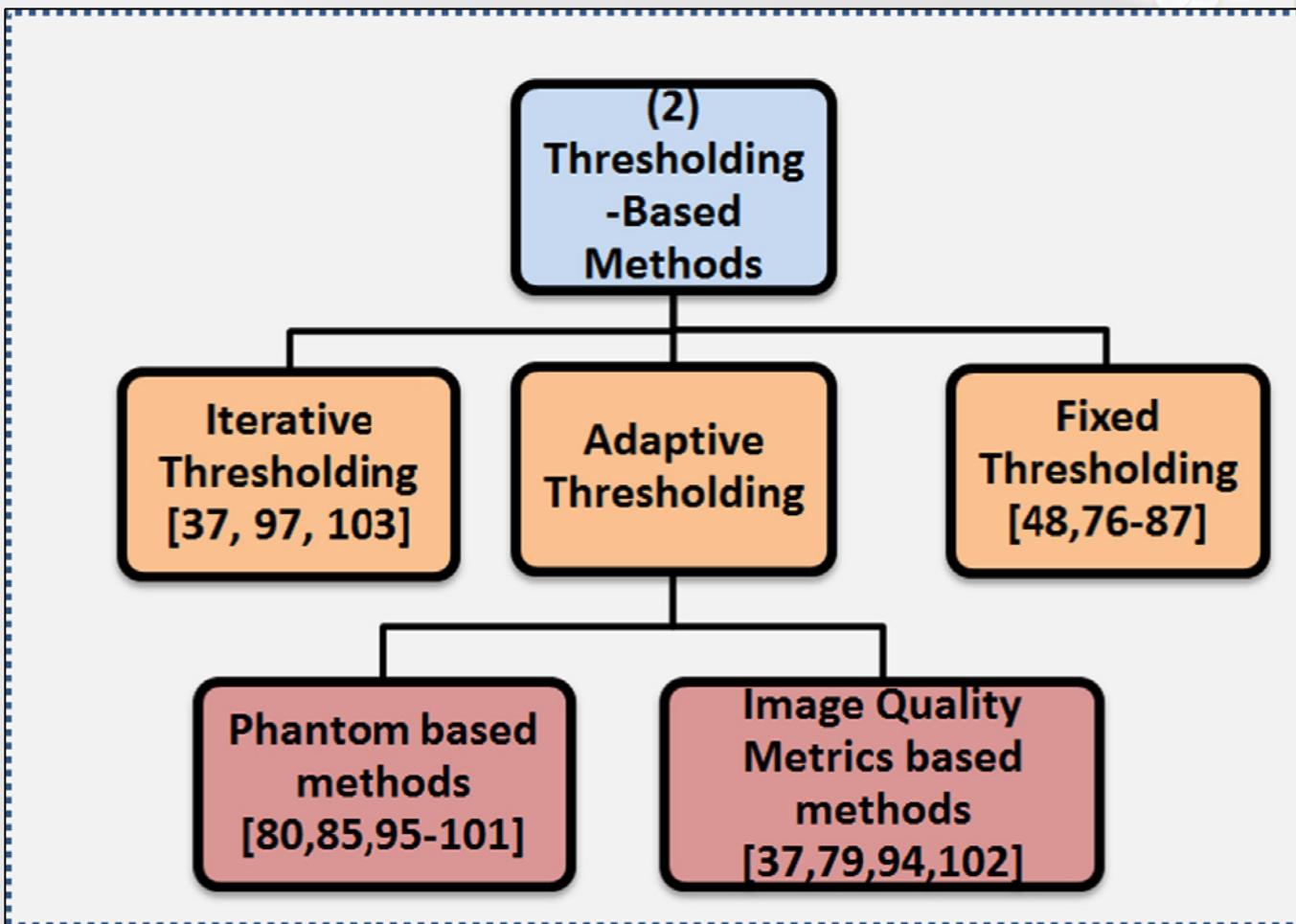
Foster B, et al. A review on segmentation of positron emission tomography images. *Comput Biol Med*. 2014

# PET segmentation

Beyond thresholds: the era of advanced segmentation paradigms



## Reviews



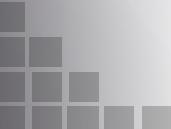
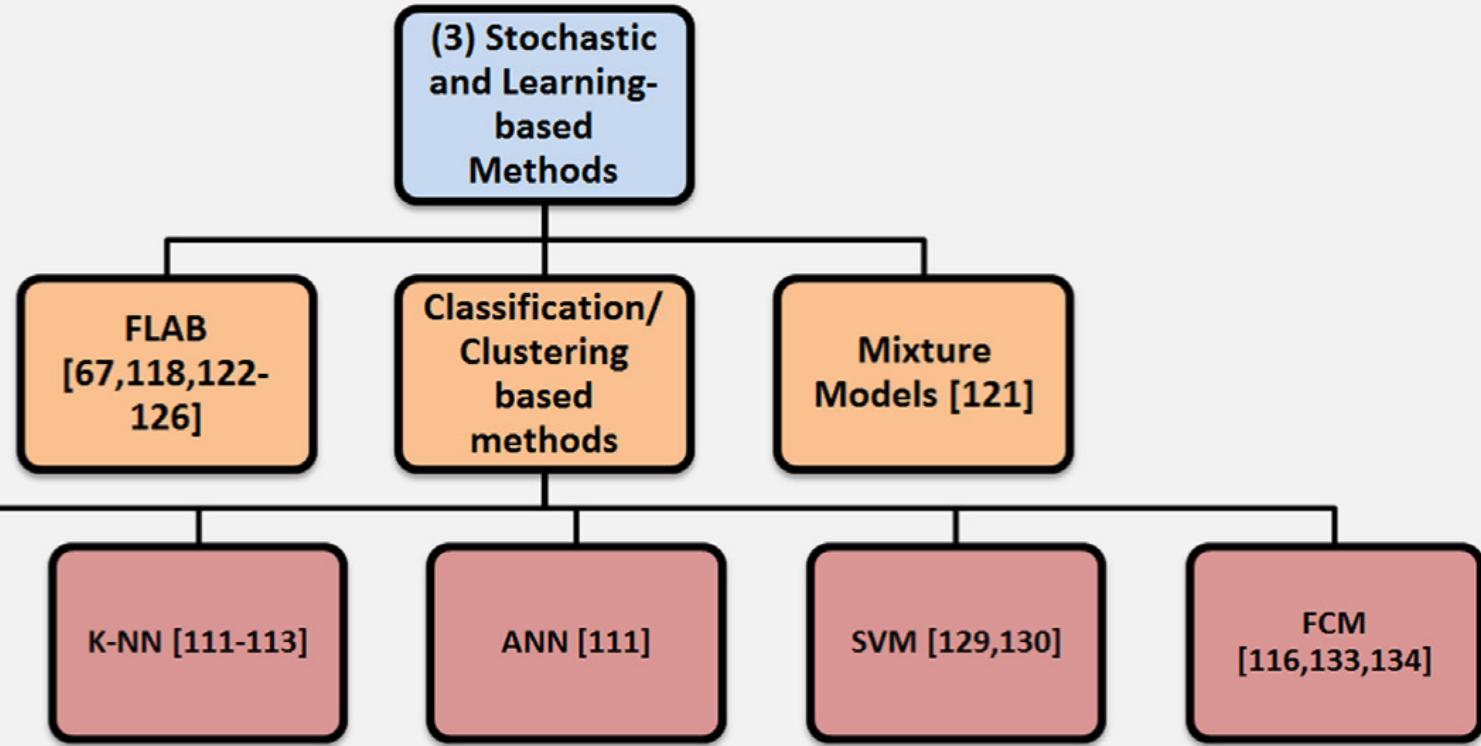
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Beyond thresholds: the era of advanced segmentation paradigms

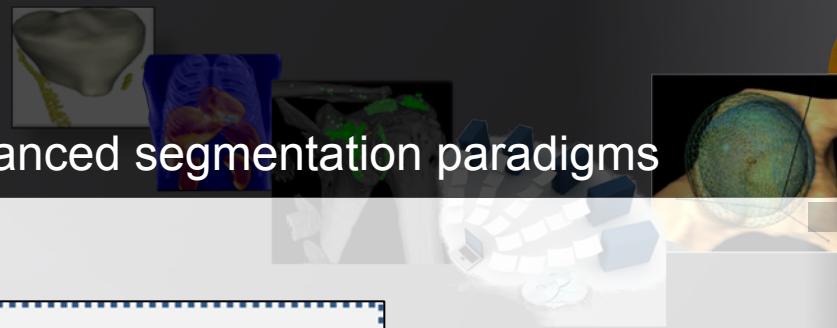


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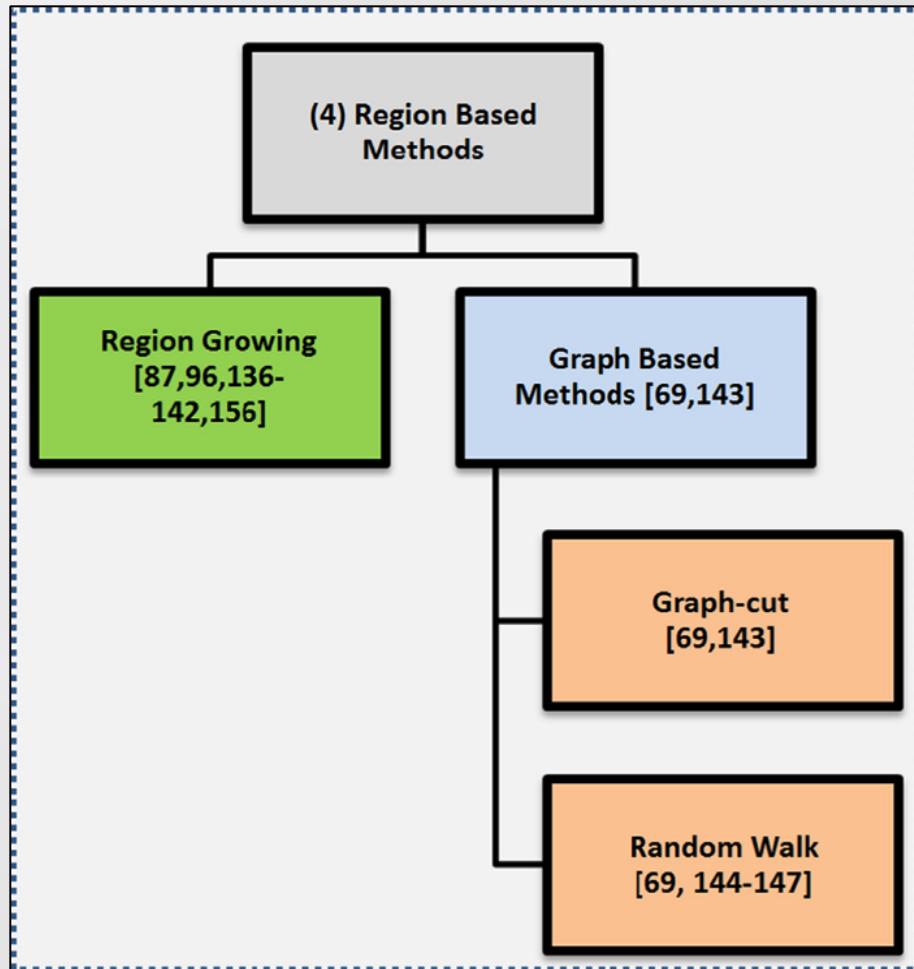


# PET segmentation

Beyond thresholds: the era of advanced segmentation paradigms



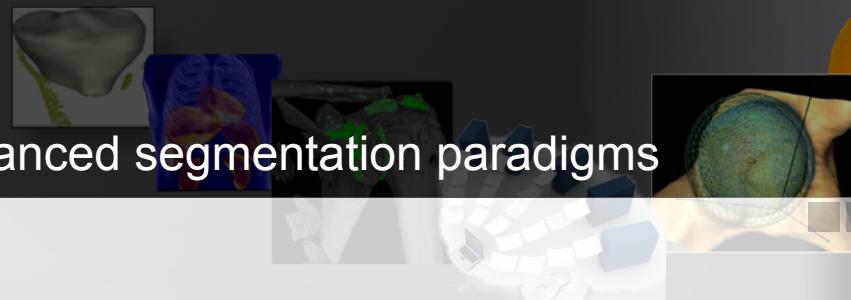
## Review:



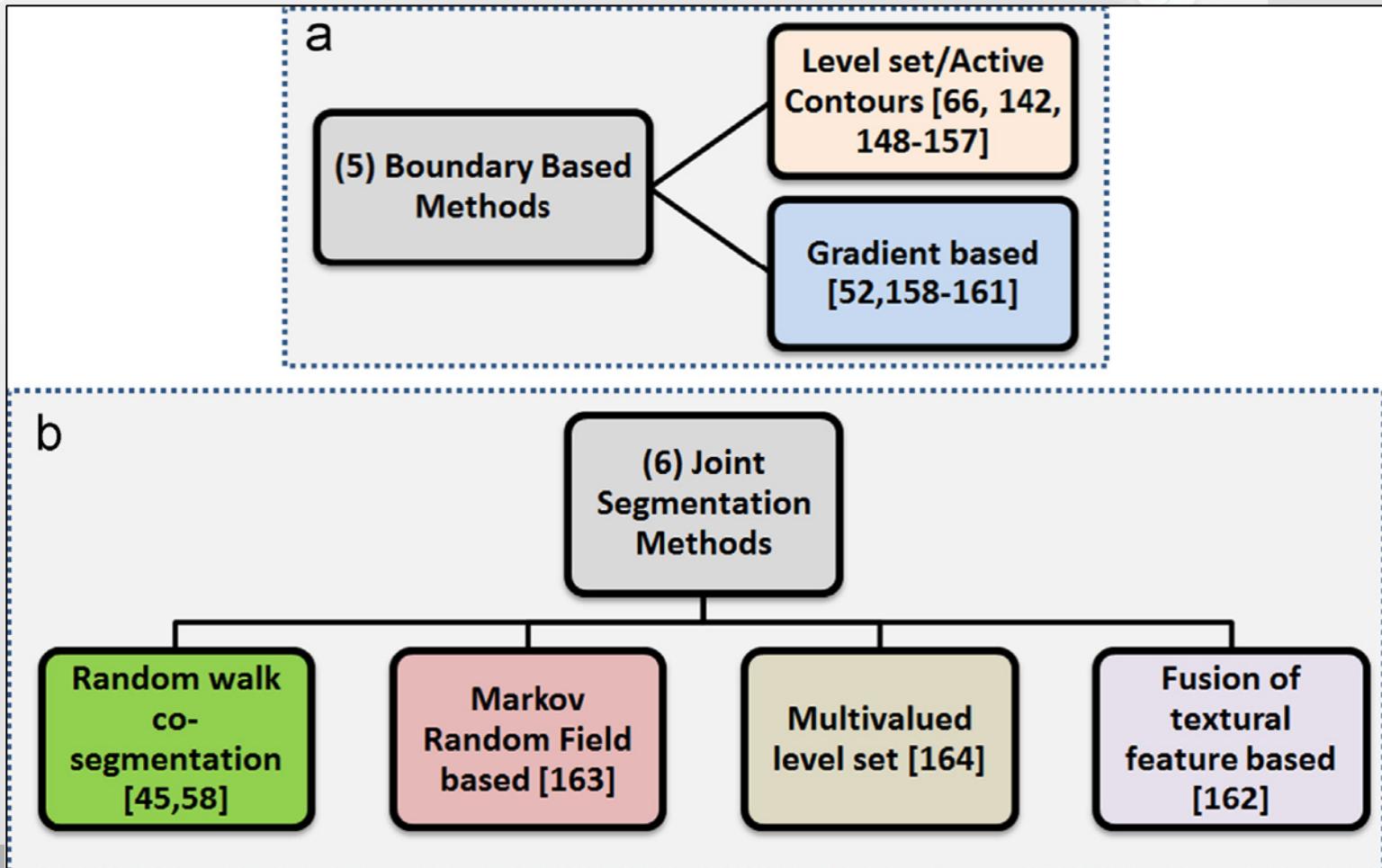
Foster B, et al. A review on segmentation of positron emission tomography images. *Comput Biol Med*. 2014

# PET segmentation

Beyond thresholds: the era of advanced segmentation paradigms



## Review:



# PET segmentation

Beyond thresholds: the era of advanced segmentation paradigms



2007-2010

- Two important papers in 2009-2010

IEEE TRANSACTIONS ON MEDICAL IMAGING, VOL. 28, NO. 6, JUNE 2009

881

## A Fuzzy Locally Adaptive Bayesian Segmentation Approach for Volume Determination in PET

Mathieu Hatt\*, Member, IEEE, Catherine Cheze le Rest, Alexandre Turzo, Christian Roux, Fellow, IEEE, and Dimitris Visvikis, Senior Member, IEEE



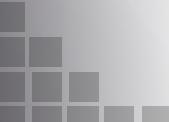
Int. J. Radiation Oncology Biol. Phys., Vol. 77, No. 1, pp. 301–308, 2010  
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0360-3016/10/\$—see front matter

doi:10.1016/j.ijrobp.2009.08.018

### PHYSICS CONTRIBUTION

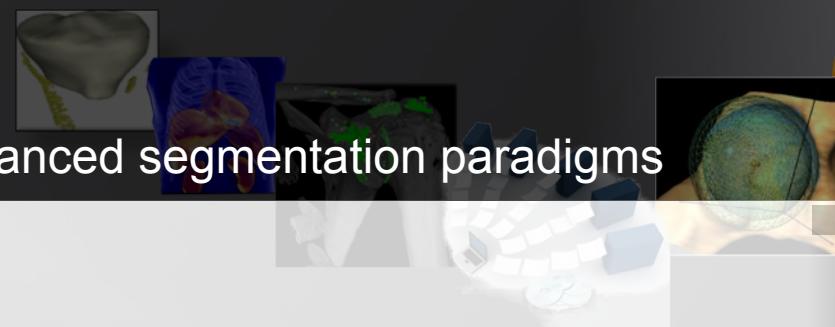
#### ACCURATE AUTOMATIC DELINEATION OF HETEROGENEOUS FUNCTIONAL VOLUMES IN POSITRON EMISSION TOMOGRAPHY FOR ONCOLOGY APPLICATIONS

MATHIEU HATT, Ph.D.,\* CATHERINE CHEZE LE REST, Ph.D., M.D.,\*† PATRICE DESCOURT, Ph.D.,\*  
ANDRÉ DEKKER, Ph.D.,‡ DIRK DE RUYSSCHER, Ph.D., M.D.,‡ MICHEL OELLERS, Ph.D.,‡  
PHILIPPE LAMBIN, Ph.D., M.D.,‡ OLIVIER PRADIER, Ph.D., M.D.,\*§ AND DIMITRIS VISVIKIS, Ph.D.\*



# PET segmentation

Beyond thresholds: the era of advanced segmentation paradigms



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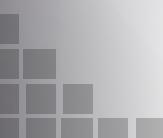
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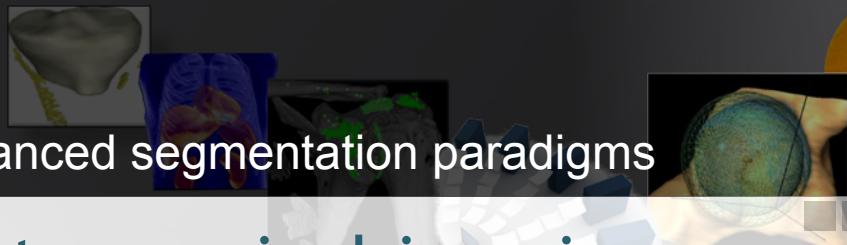
MATHIEU HATT, Ph.D.,\* CATHERINE CHEZE LE REST, Ph.D., M.D.,\*† PATRICE DESCOURT, Ph.D.,\*  
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PHILIPPE LAMBIN, Ph.D., M.D.,‡ OLIVIER PRADIER, Ph.D., M.D.,\*§ AND DIMITRIS VISVIKIS, Ph.D.\*

Citations ~280

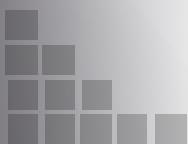


# PET segmentation

Beyond thresholds: the era of advanced segmentation paradigms

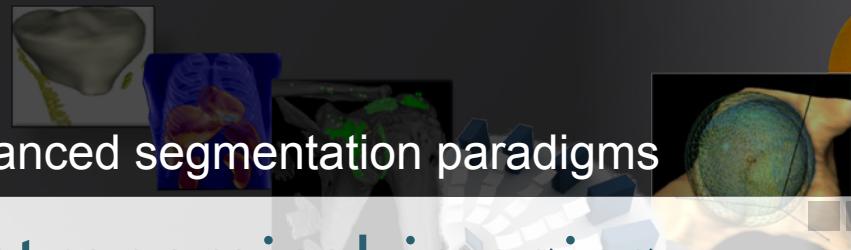


④ FLAB is inspired by astronomical imaging

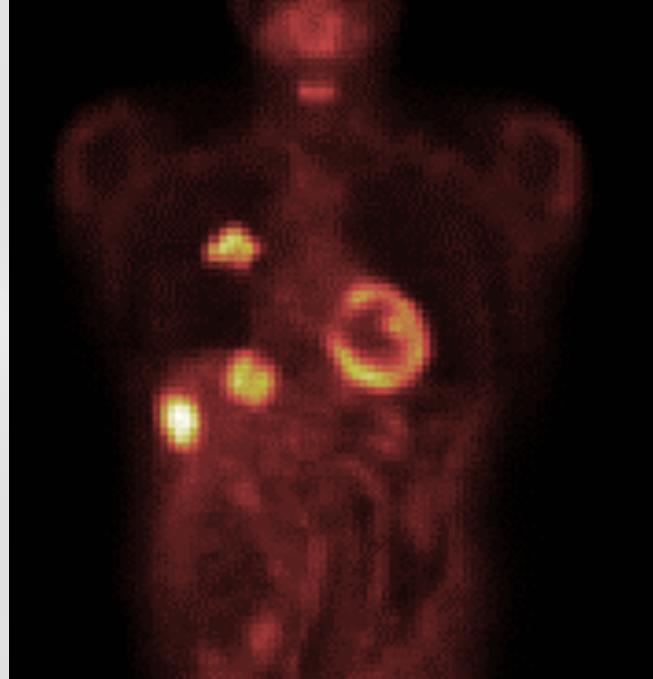


# PET segmentation

Beyond thresholds: the era of advanced segmentation paradigms

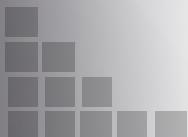


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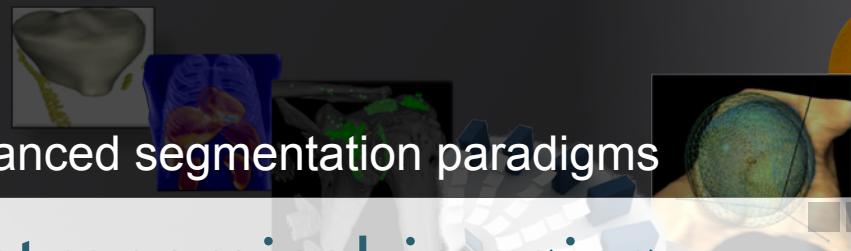
Nebula

$^{18}\text{F}$ -FDG PET

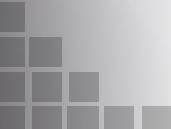
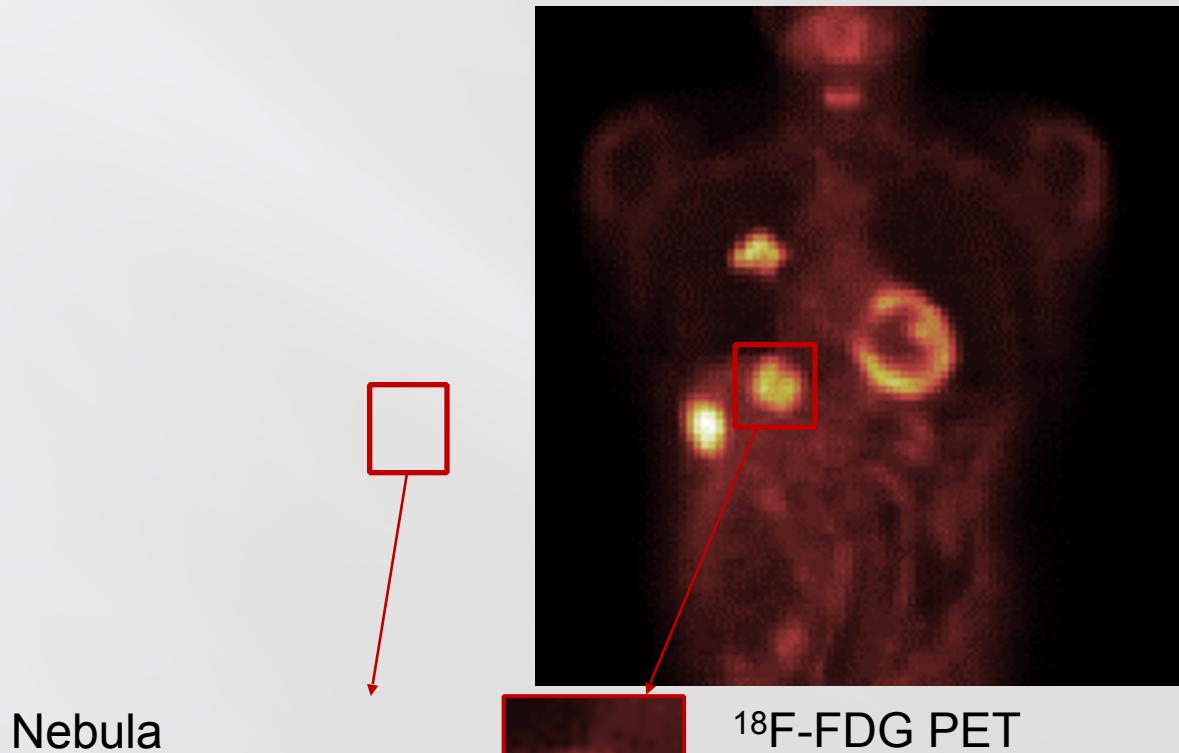


# PET segmentation

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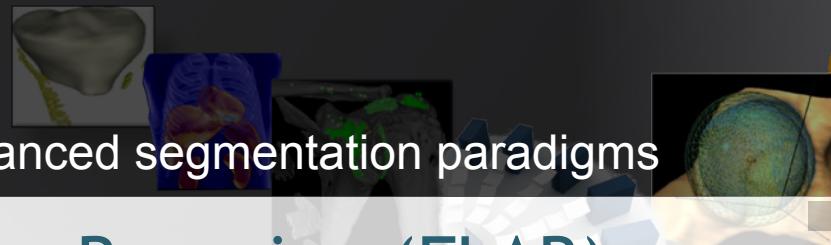


## FLAB is inspired by astronomical imaging



# PET segmentation

Beyond thresholds: the era of advanced segmentation paradigms



## Fuzzy Locally Adaptive Bayesian (FLAB)

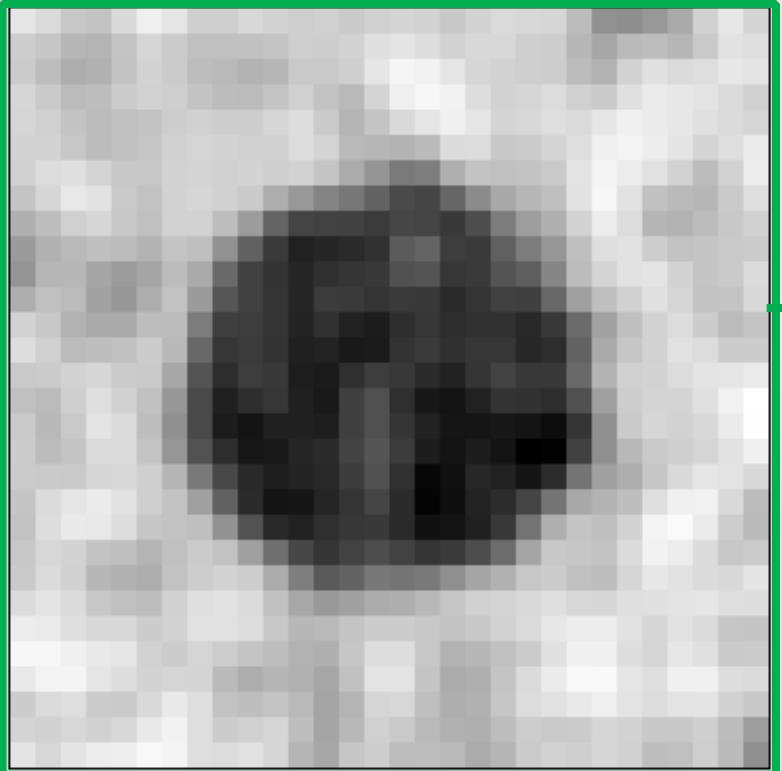
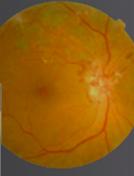
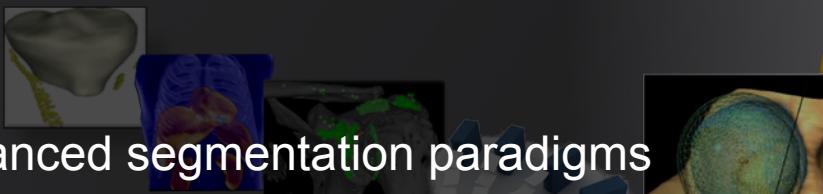
- Principle: models blur (partial volume effects) and noise specific to PET imaging thanks to fuzzy measure and statistical bayesian modeling
- Takes into account spatial correlation using locally adaptive neighborhood
- Iterative estimation of parameters using a stochastic expectation maximization (SEM) algorithm
- Probability for each voxel to belong to a given class: non binary (up to 3 classes): robust versus highly heterogeneous tumors
- Validated against simulated images, clinical images with histopathology, for robustness (four # scanners) and reproducibility (on double baseline scans)

Hatt, et al. A fuzzy locally adaptive Bayesian segmentation approach for volume determination in PET. *IEEE Trans Med Imaging*. 2009

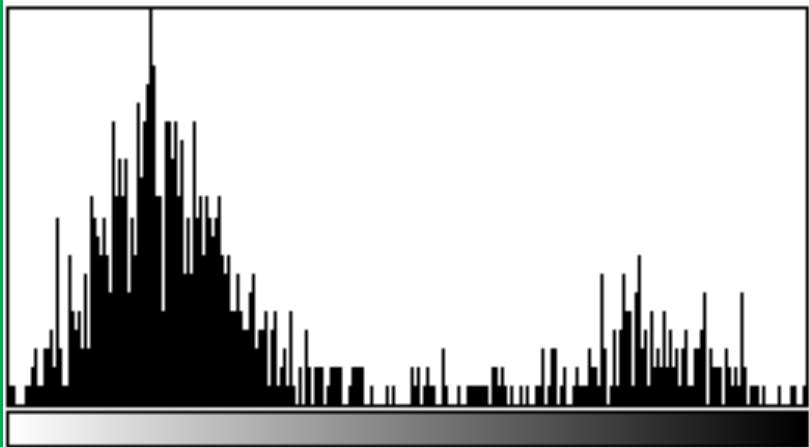
Hatt, et al. Accurate automatic delineation of heterogeneous functional volumes in positron emission tomography for oncology applications. *Int J Radiat Oncol Biol Phys*. 2010

# PET segmentation

Beyond thresholds: the era of advanced segmentation paradigms



*Observation  
probability  
 $P(Y|X)$*



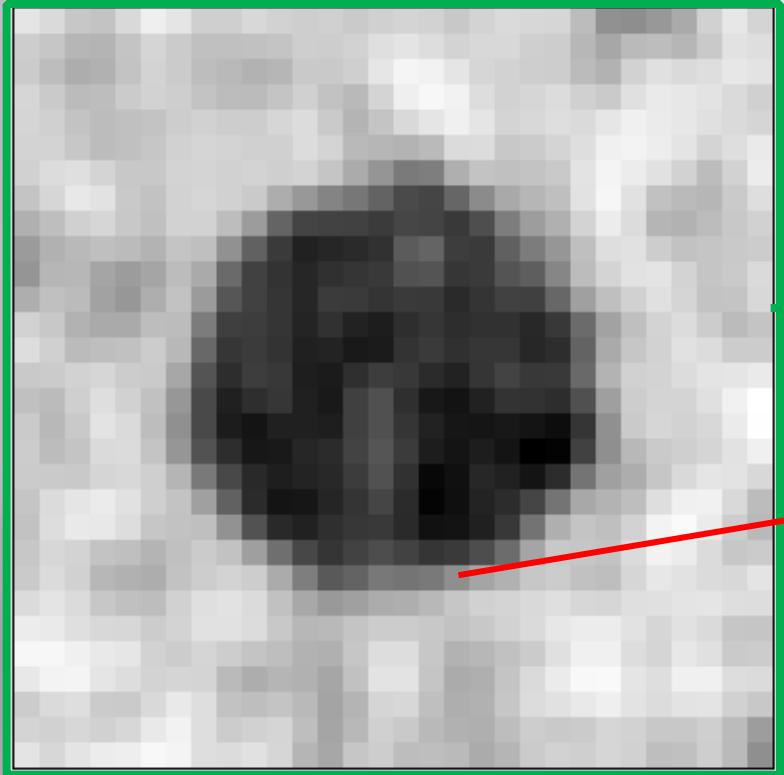
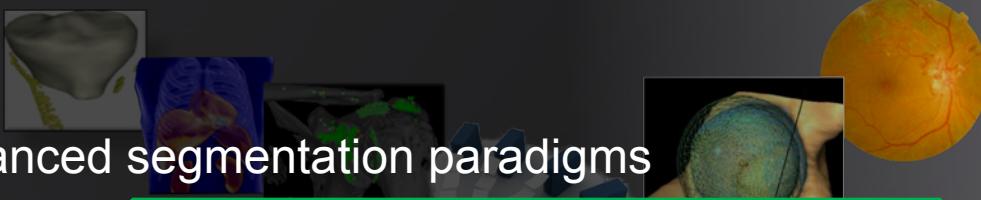
$$P(X|Y) = \frac{P(X, Y)}{P(Y)} = \frac{P(Y|X)P(X)}{P(Y)}$$

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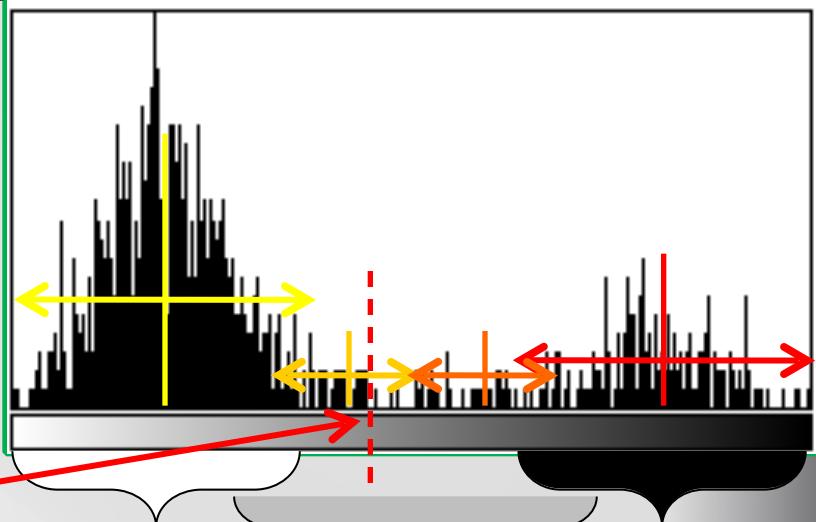
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# PET segmentation

Beyond thresholds: the era of advanced segmentation paradigms



*Observation probability*  
 $P(Y|X)$



[0]



background

[1]



Partial volume effects  
(fuzzy transitions)

tumor

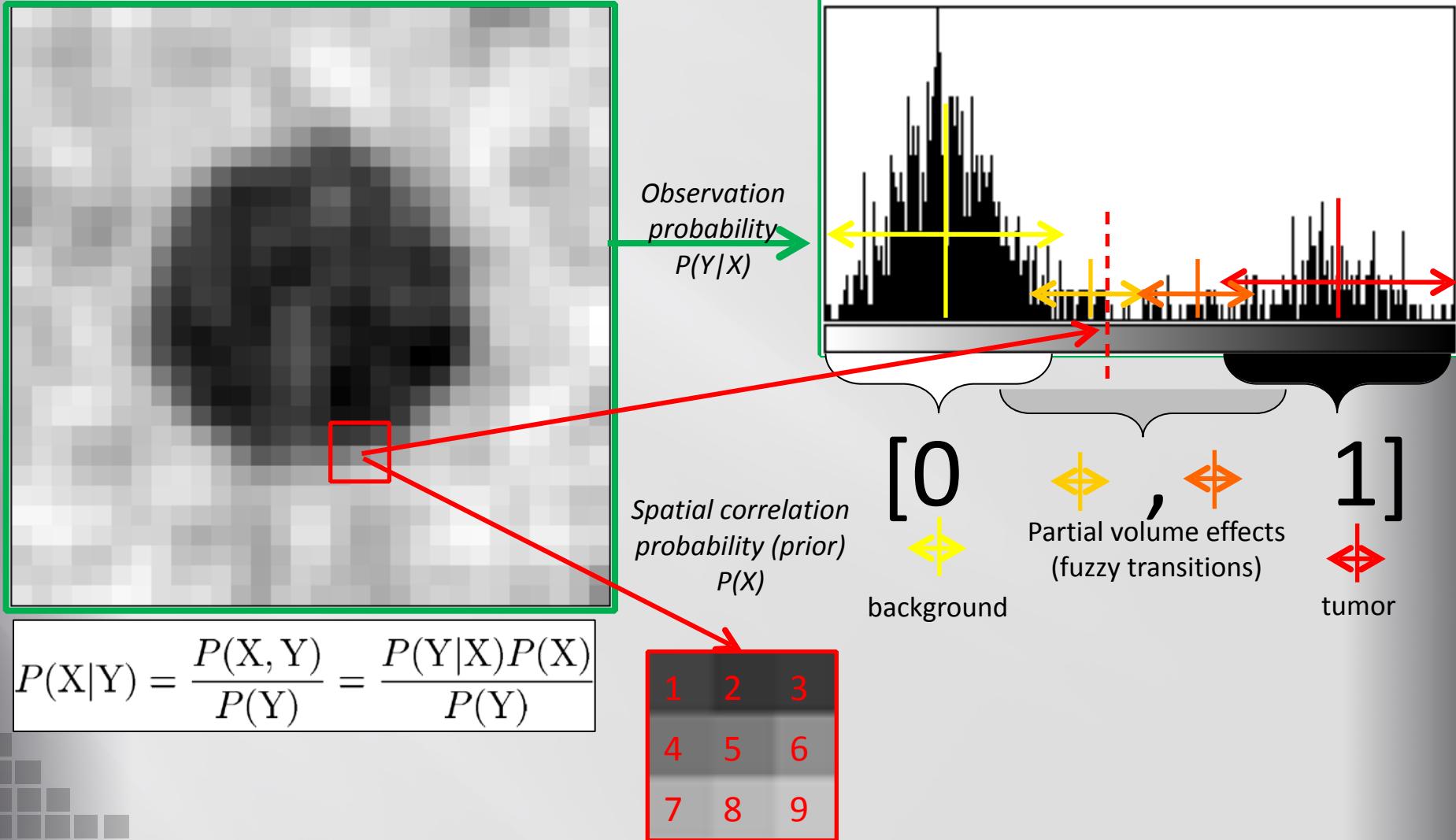
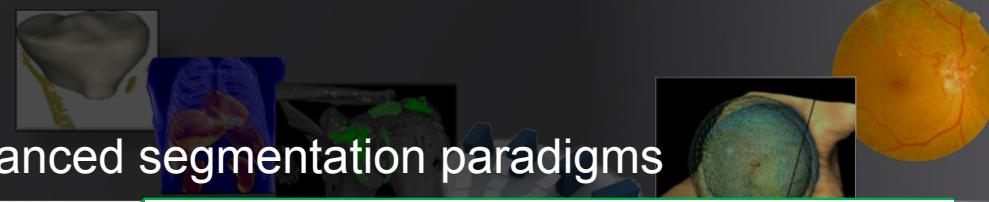
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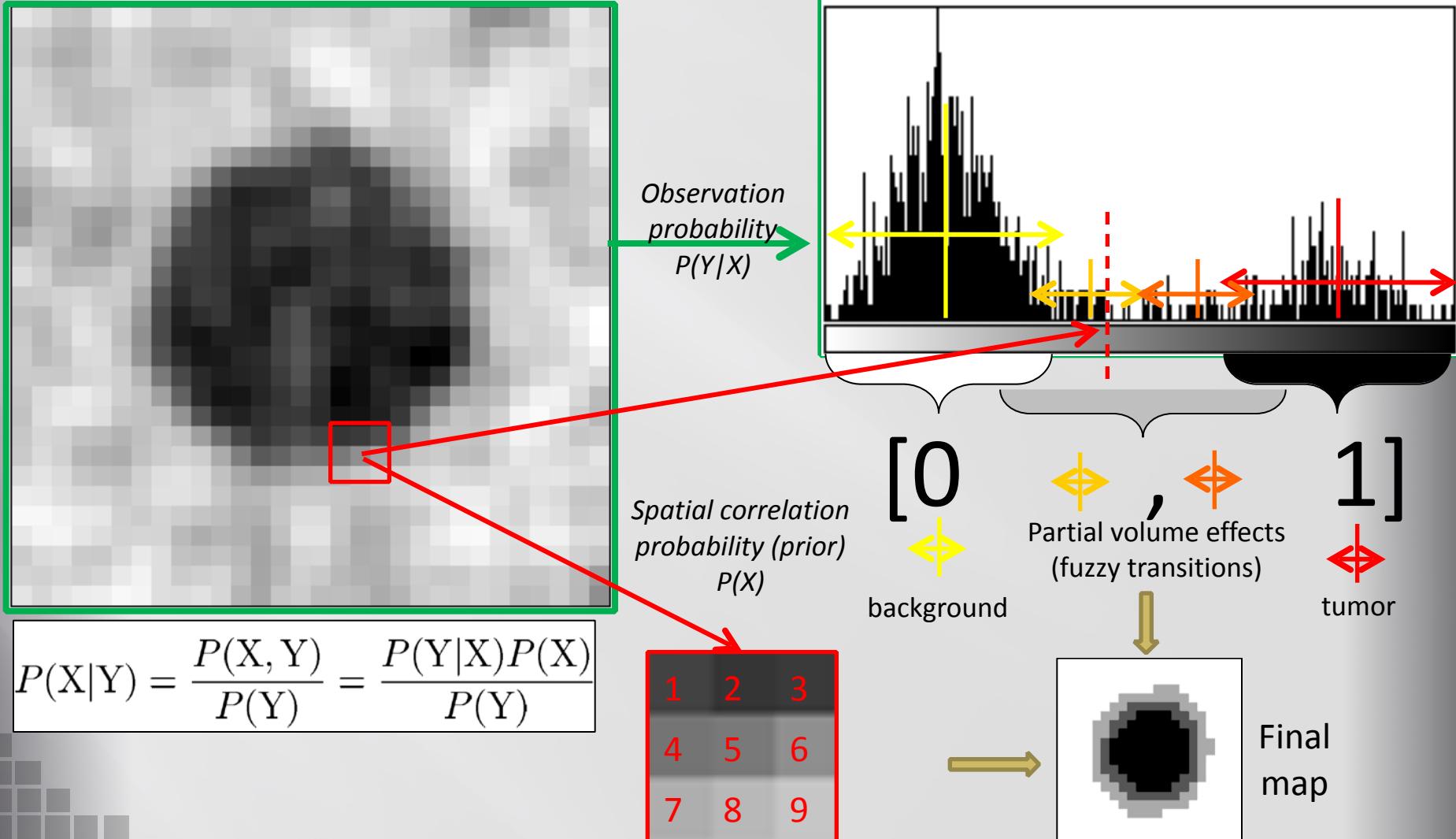
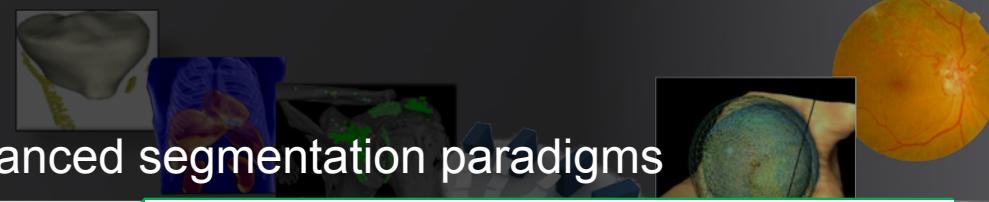


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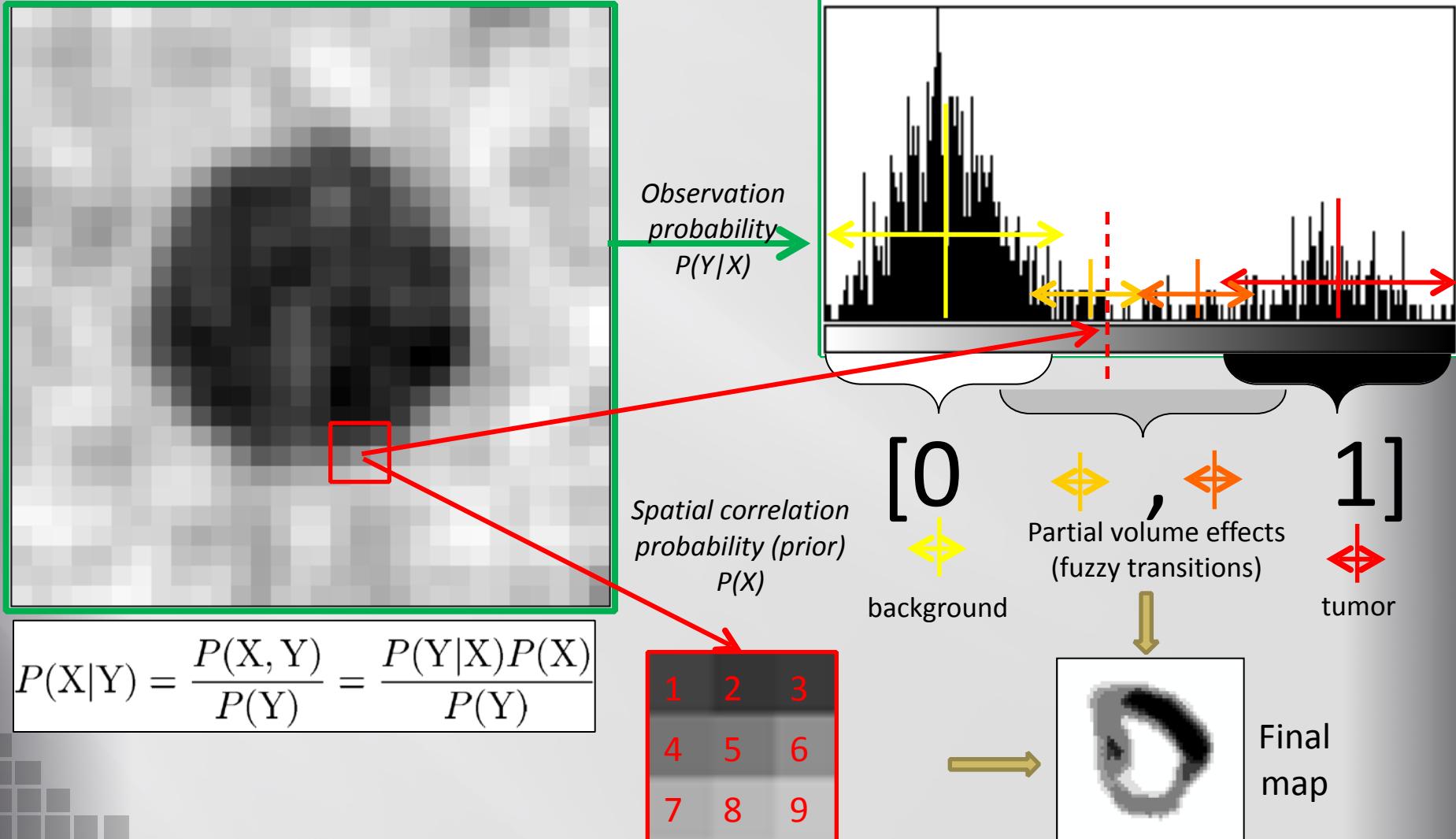
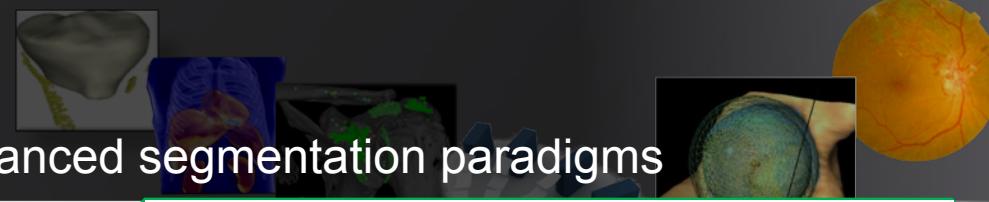


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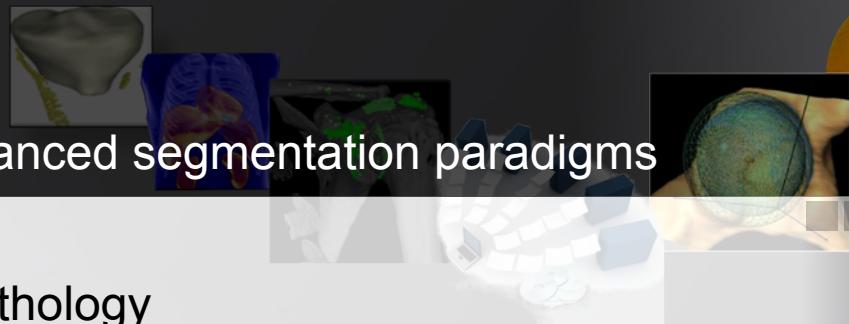


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# PET segmentation

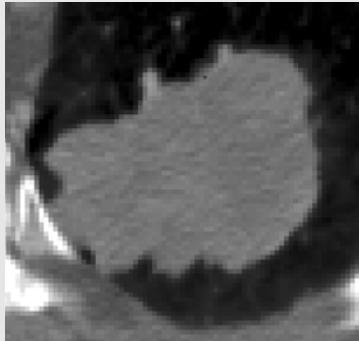
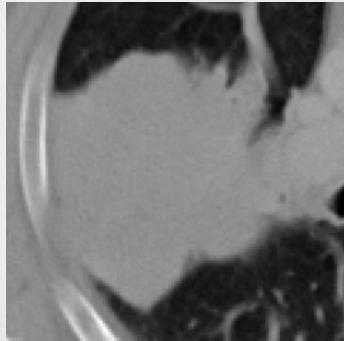
Beyond thresholds: the era of advanced segmentation paradigms



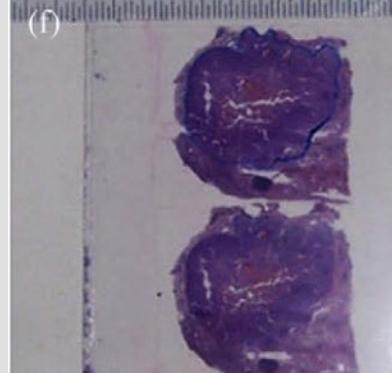
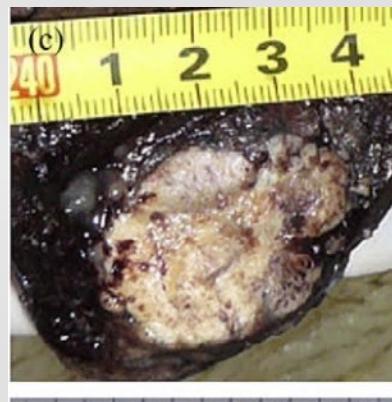
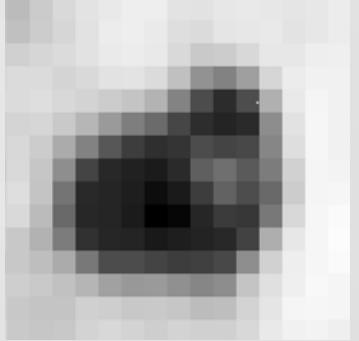
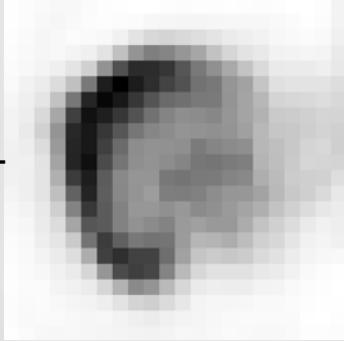
18 clinical NSCLC tumors with histopathology

- ✓ max diameter: 12-90 mm
- ✓ Heterogeneity: variable
- ✓ Shapes: variable

CT



PET

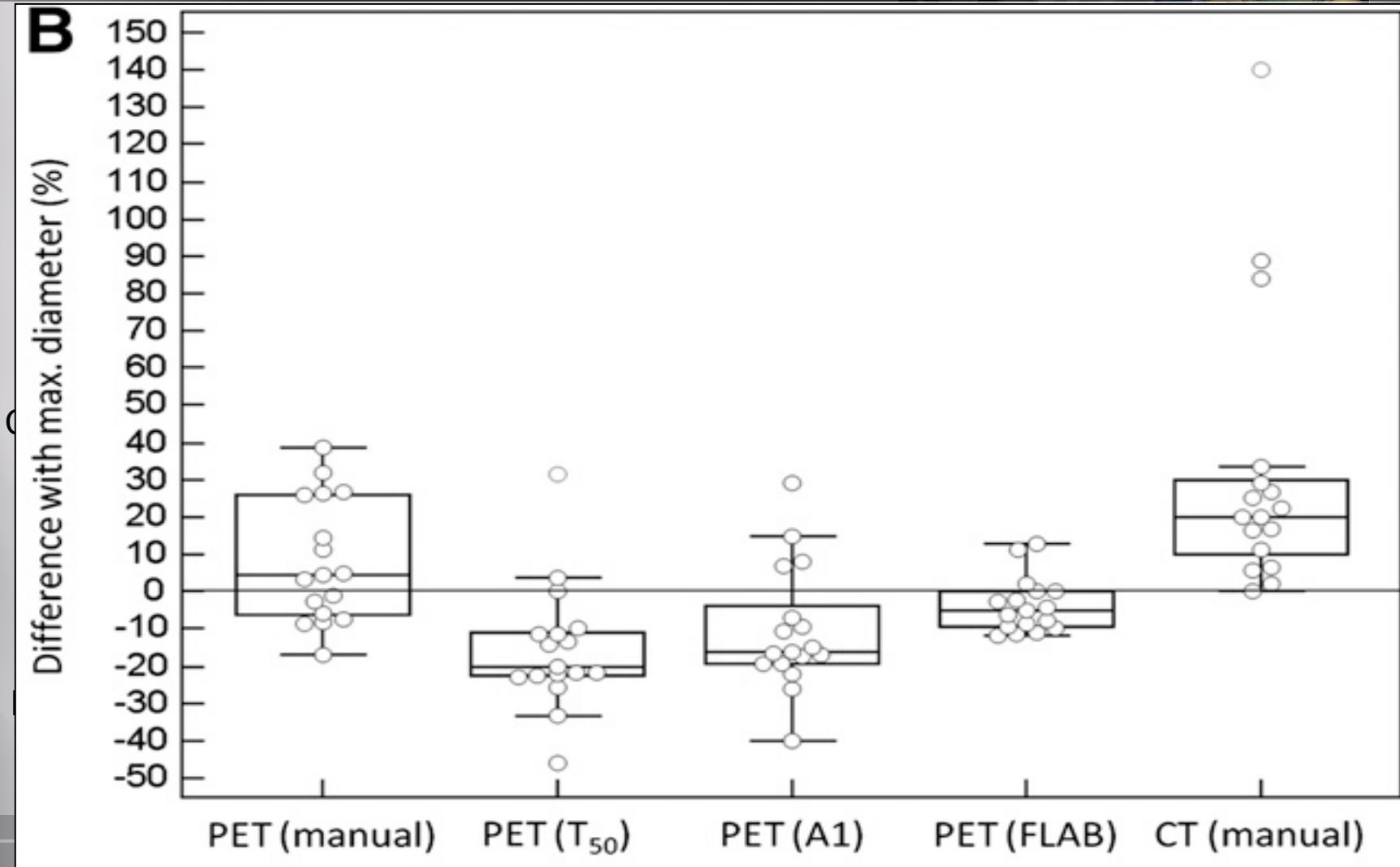
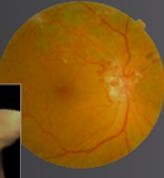
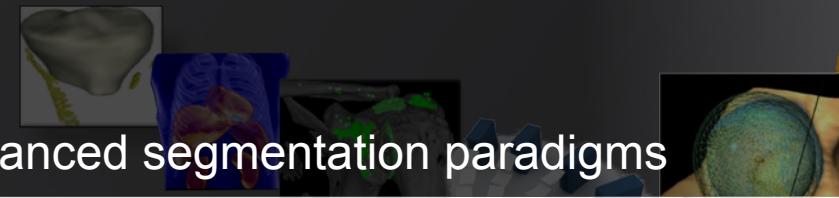


van Baardwijk et al,  
International Journal of  
Radiation Oncology Biology  
Physics, 2007

Hatt M, et al. Impact of tumor size and tracer uptake heterogeneity in (18)F-FDG PET and CT non-small cell lung cancer tumor delineation. *J Nucl Med.* 2011

# PET segmentation

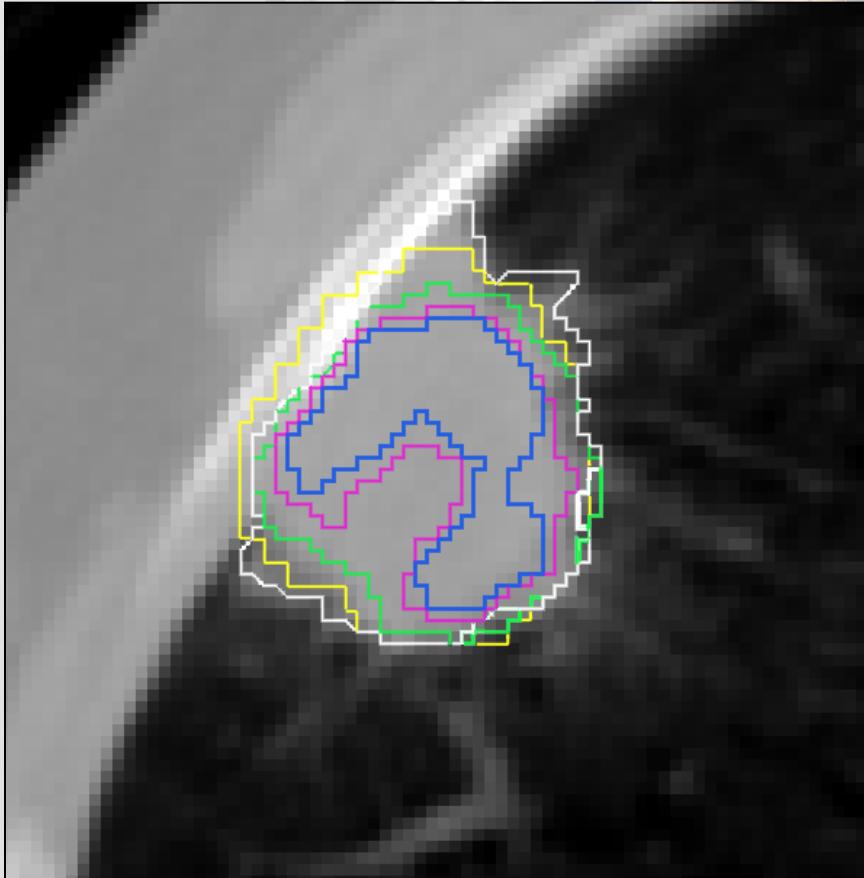
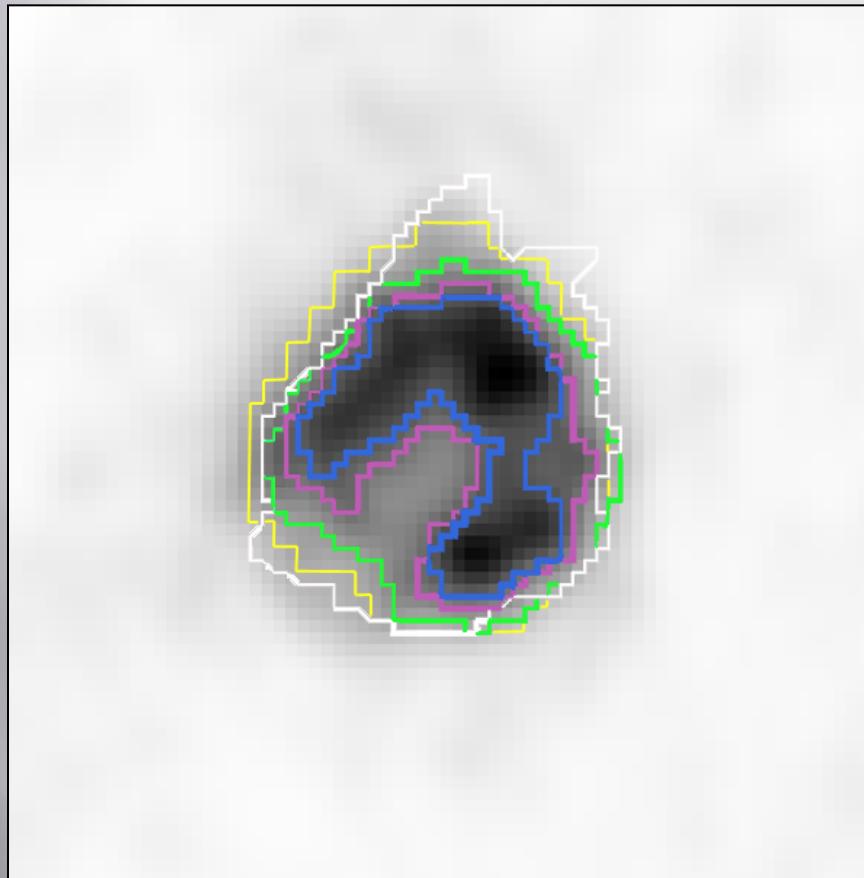
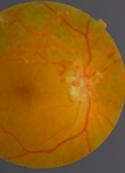
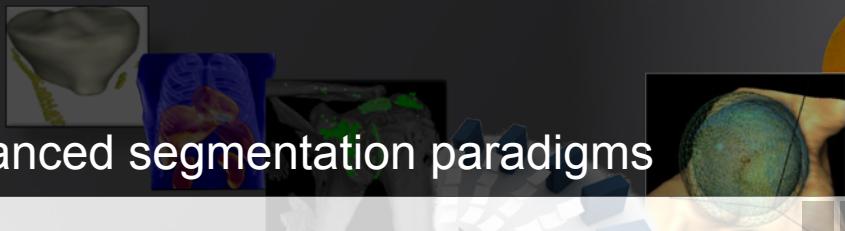
Beyond thresholds: the era of advanced segmentation paradigms



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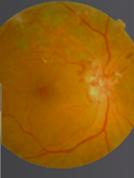
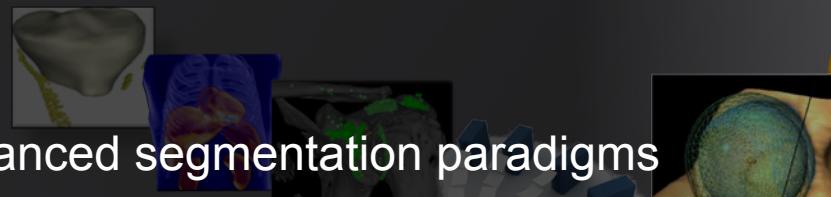


White = manual CT    Yellow = manual PET  
Blue =  $T_{50}$     Purple = Adaptive    Green = FLAB

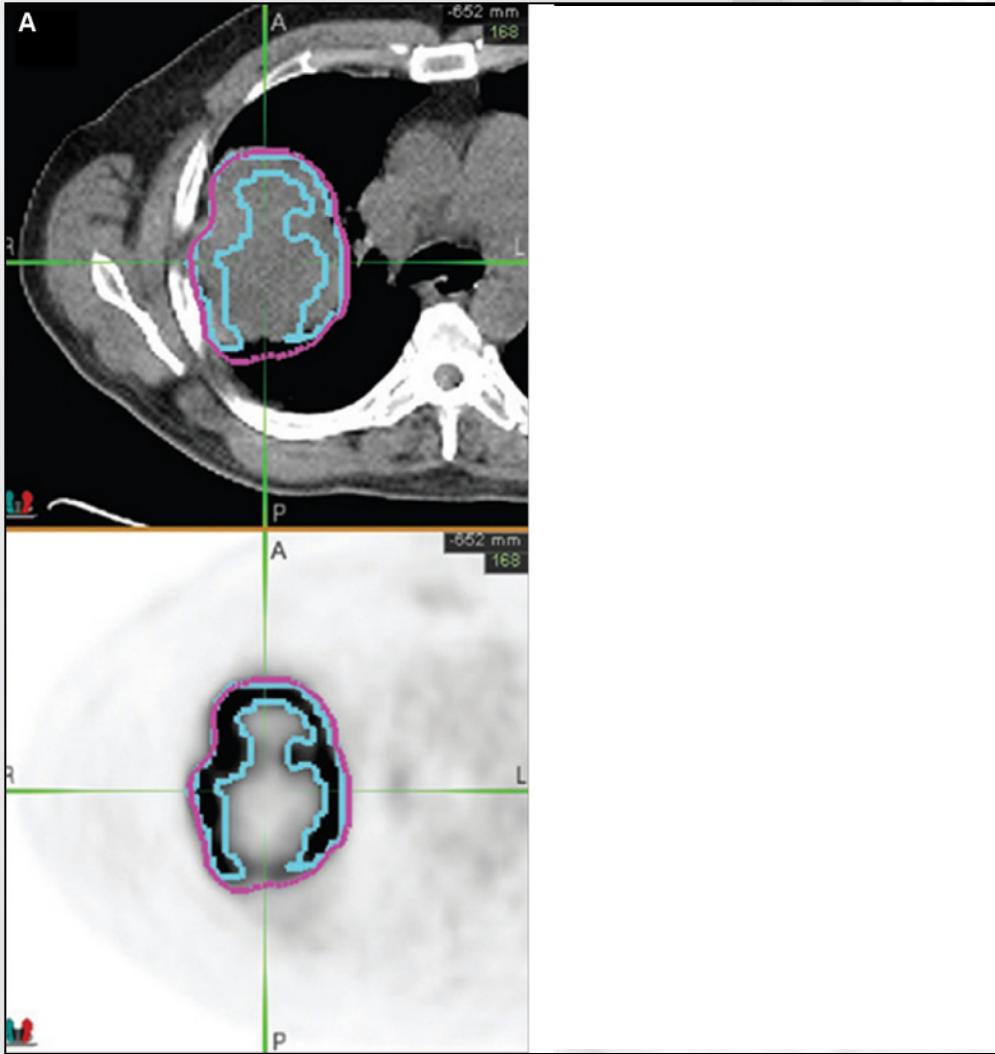
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Beyond thresholds: the era of advanced segmentation paradigms



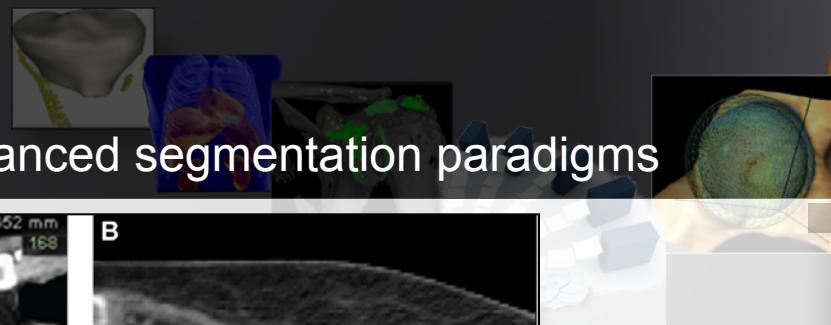
Comparison between FLAB and gradient-based



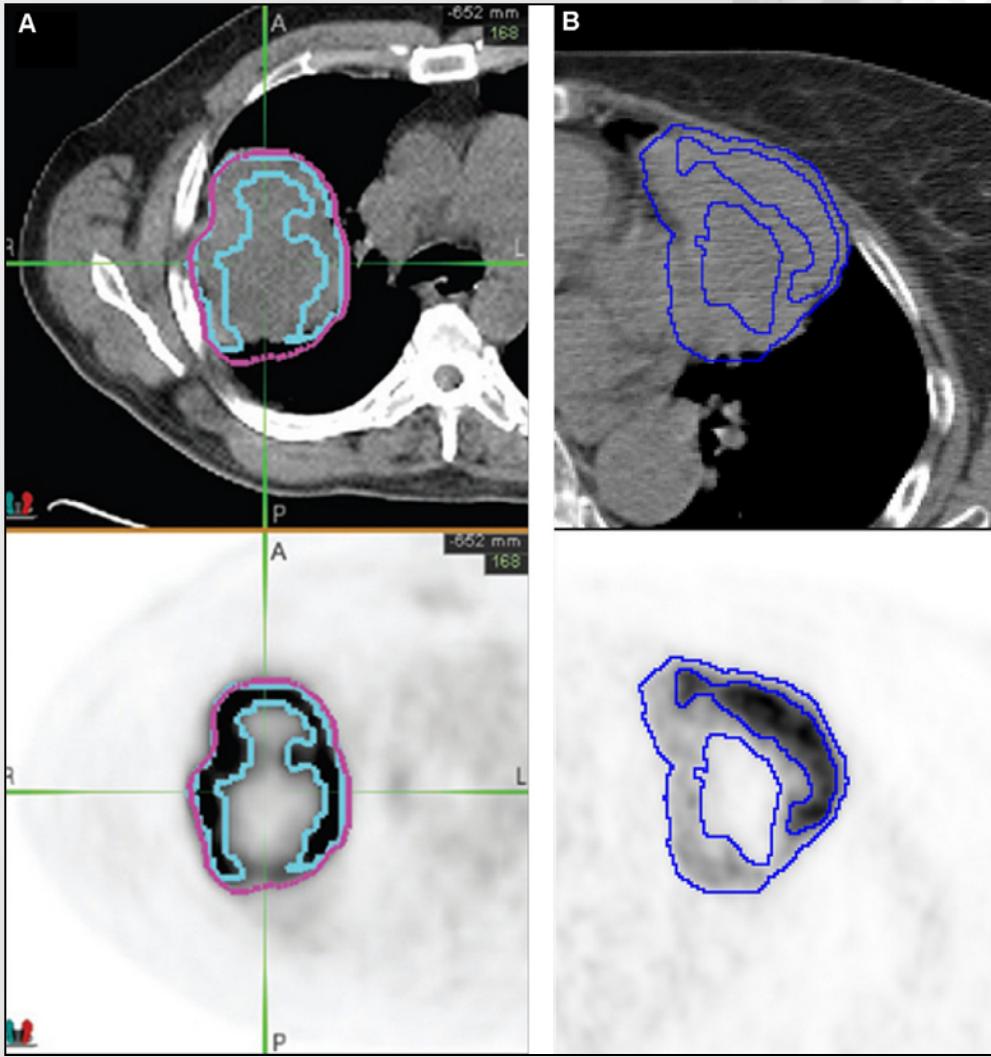
Hatt, et al. Metabolically active volumes automatic delineation methodologies in PET imaging: Review and perspectives. *Cancer Radiother* 2011

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Beyond thresholds: the era of advanced segmentation paradigms



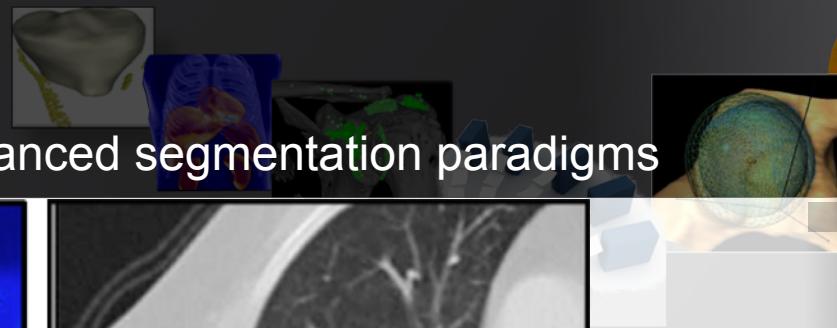
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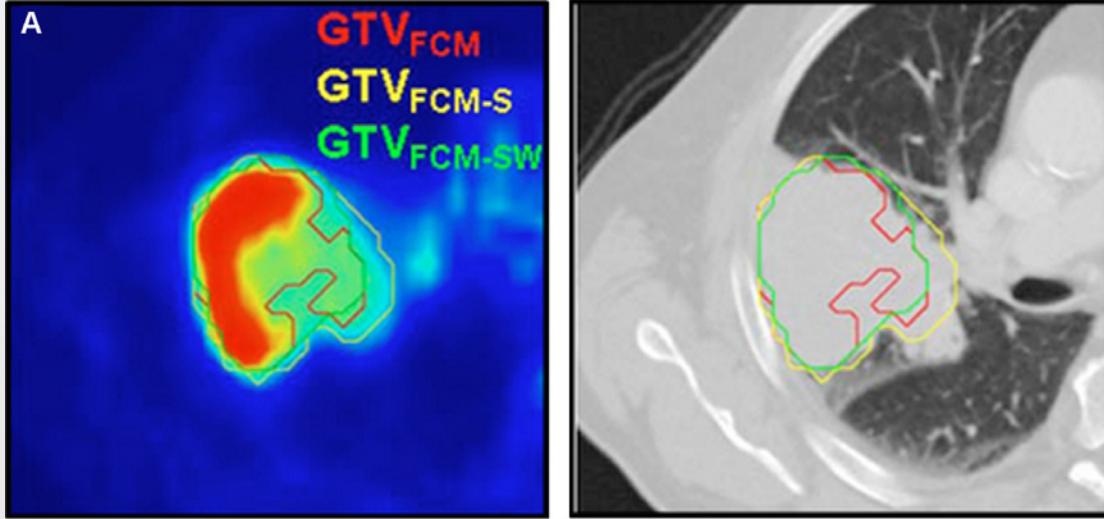
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# PET segmentation

Beyond thresholds: the era of advanced segmentation paradigms



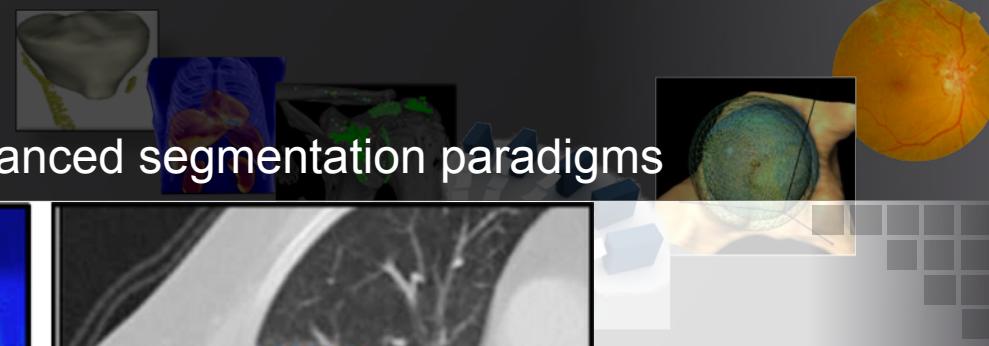
Comparison between FLAB and FCM



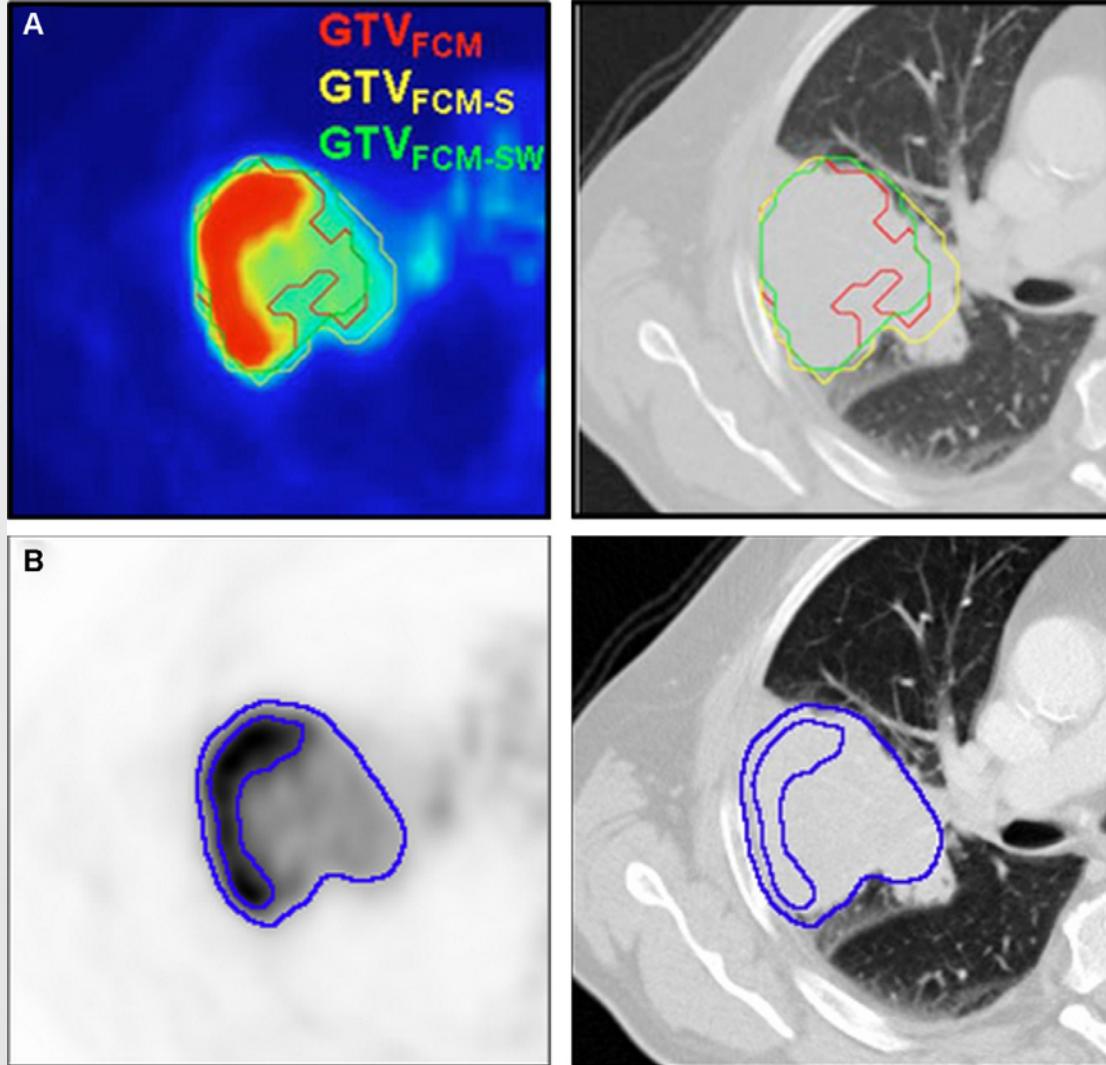
Hatt, *et al.* Metabolically active volumes automatic delineation methodologies in PET imaging: Review and perspectives. *Cancer Radiother* 2011

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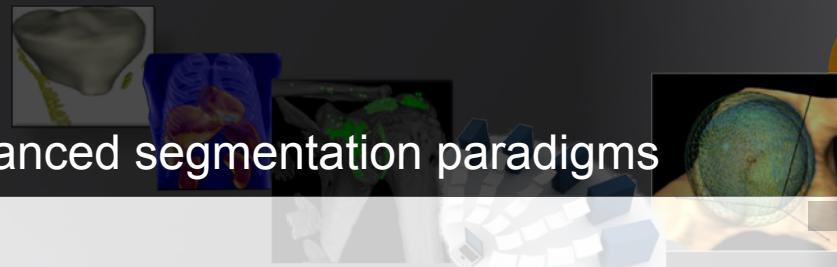
Comparison between FLAB and FCM



Hatt, et al. Metabolically active volumes automatic delineation methodologies in PET imaging: Review and perspectives. *Cancer Radiother* 2011

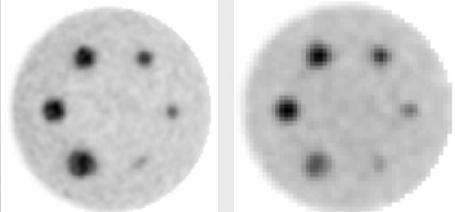
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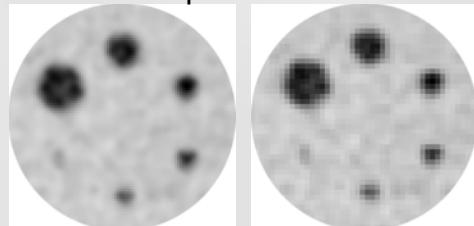


- Scanners (Philips, Philips TOF, GE, Siemens) and algorithms (RAMLA, TF MLEM, OSEM) with standard clinical protocols
- parameters: sphere:background contrast (4:1 to 10:1), acquisition duration (1,2,5 min), voxels size (2 to 5mm)

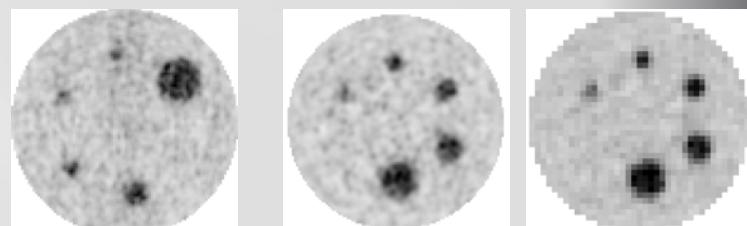
RAMLA 3D  
Philips Gemini



TF MLEM  
Philips Gemini TF



OSEM  
GE Discovery LS      Siemens Biograph



A

B

1

2

1

2

1

1

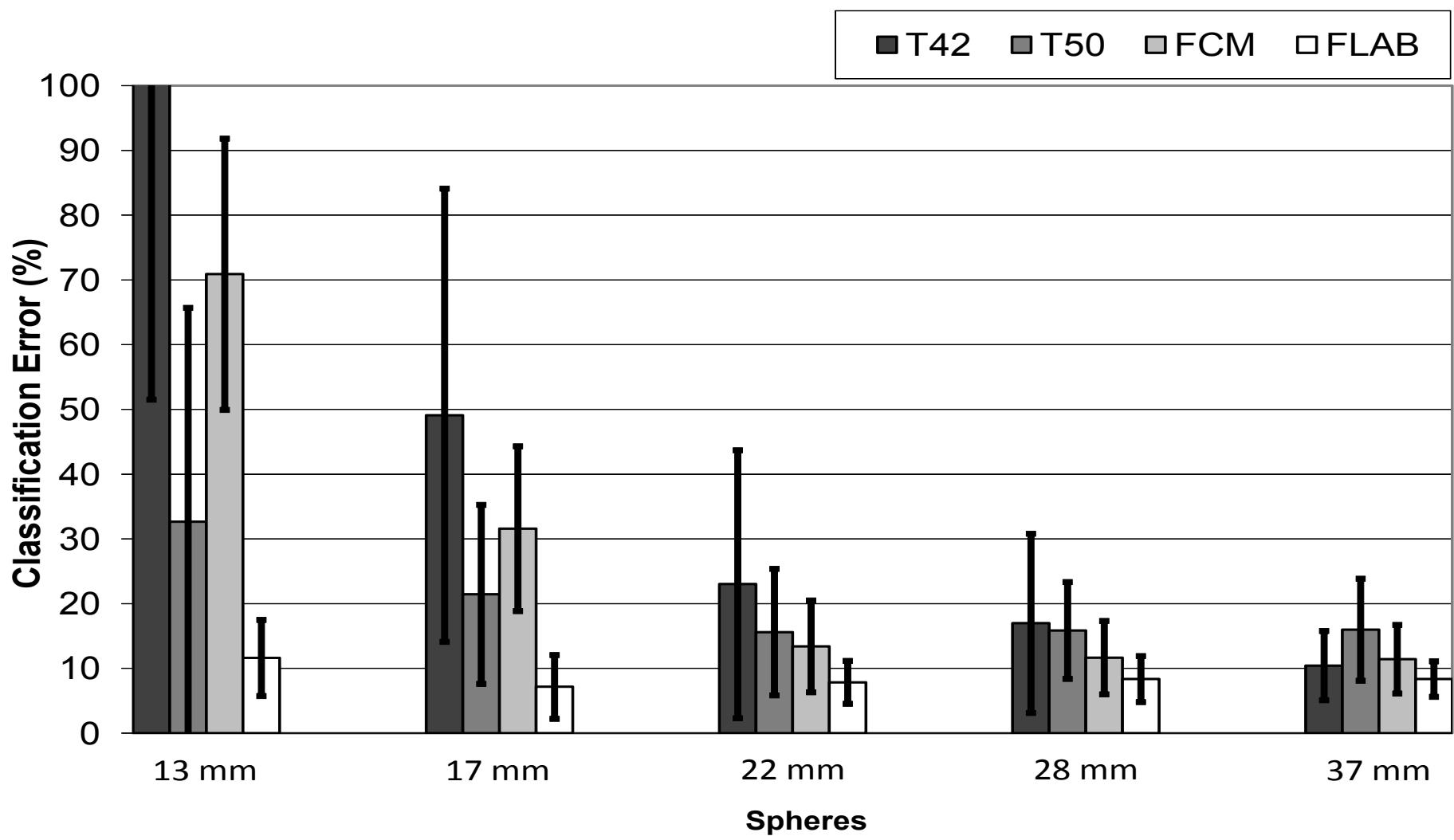
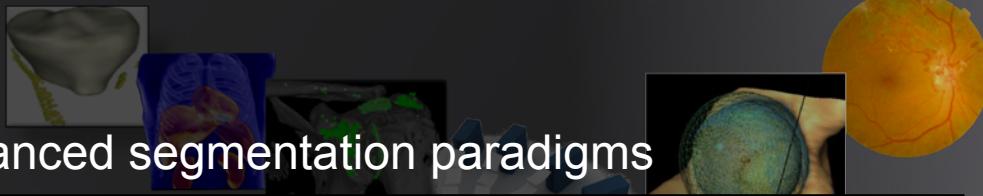
2

$A = 4:1 \text{ or } 5:1, B = 8:1 \text{ or } 10:1$

$1 = 2x2 \text{ mm}, 2 = 4x4 \text{ or } 5x5 \text{ mm}$

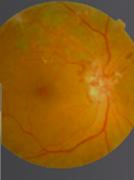
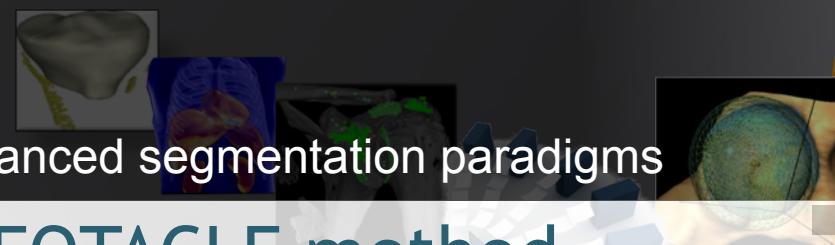
# PET segmentation

Beyond thresholds: the era of advanced segmentation paradigms



# PET segmentation

Beyond thresholds: the era of advanced segmentation paradigms



## ► Beyond FLAB: the SPEQTACLE method

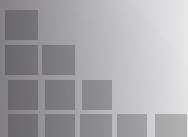
- Spatial Positron Emission Quantification of Tumor volume: AutomatiC L<sub>p</sub>-norm Estimation



### SPEQTACLE: An automated generalized fuzzy C-means algorithm for tumor delineation in PET

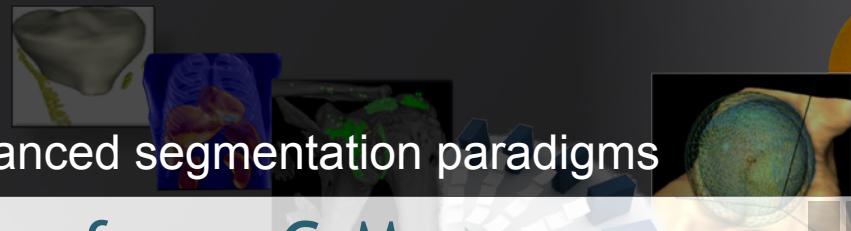
Jérôme Lapuyade-Lahorgue, Dimitris Visvikis, Olivier Pradier, Catherine Cheze Le Rest, and Mathieu Hatt

Citation: [Medical Physics](#) **42**, 5720 (2015); doi: 10.1118/1.4929561



# PET segmentation

Beyond thresholds: the era of advanced segmentation paradigms

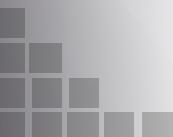


## ▶ SPEQTACLE is based on fuzzy C-Means

- Principle: divide the set of voxels into clusters sharing similar properties (intensities)
- Estimation: For each observation  $y_u \in R$ , estimate the probabilities  $p_{u,i}$  and the centers  $\mu_i$  of clusters  $i \in \{1, \dots, K\}$  by minimizing:

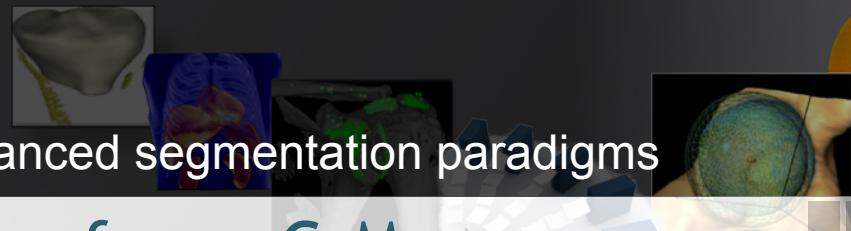
$$\sum_{u \in V} \sum_{i=1}^K p_{u,i}^2 |y_u - \mu_i|^2$$

- Decision:  $y_u \rightarrow i(y_u)$  such that  $p_{u,i(y_u)}$  is maximal.



# PET segmentation

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## ▶ SPEQTACLE is based on fuzzy C-Means

- Principle: divide the set of voxels into clusters sharing similar properties (intensities)
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$$\sum_{u \in V} \sum_{i=1}^K p_{u,i}^2 |y_u - \mu_i|^2$$

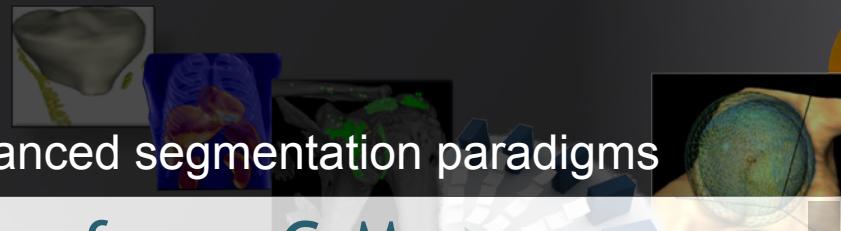
Norm parameter

- Decision:  $y_u \rightarrow i(y_u)$  such that  $p_{u,i(y_u)}$  is maximal.



# PET segmentation

Beyond thresholds: the era of advanced segmentation paradigms



## ▶ SPEQTACLE is based on fuzzy C-Means

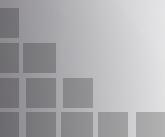
- Principle: divide the set of voxels into clusters sharing similar properties (intensities)
- Estimation: For each observation  $y_u \in R$ , estimate the probabilities  $p_{u,i}$  and the centers  $\mu_i$  of clusters  $i \in \{1, \dots, K\}$  by minimizing:

$$\sum_{u \in V} \sum_{i=1}^K p_{u,i}^2 |y_u - \mu_i|^2$$

→ Generalized FCM:

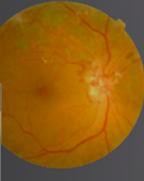
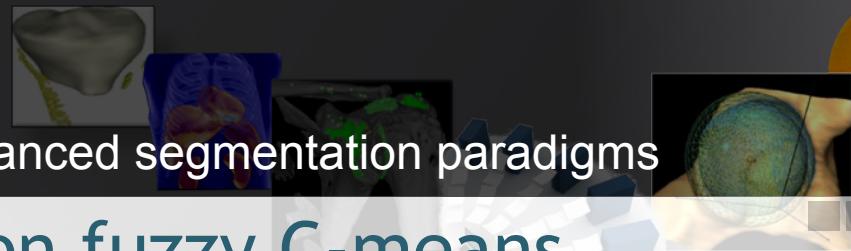
Replace 2 by another value (e.g. 5, 10...)

- Decision:  $y_u \rightarrow i(y_u)$  such that  $p_{u,i(y_u)}$  is maximal.



# PET segmentation

Beyond thresholds: the era of advanced segmentation paradigms



## SPEQTACLE is based on fuzzy C-means

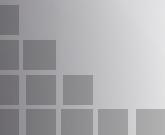
- Principle: divide the set of voxels into clusters sharing similar properties (intensities)
- Estimation: For each observation  $y_u \in R$ , estimate the probabilities  $p_{u,i}$  and the centers  $\mu_i$  of clusters  $i \in \{1, \dots, K\}$  by minimizing:

$$\sum_{u \in V} \sum_{i=1}^K p_{u,i}^2 |y_u - \mu_i|^\alpha$$

Norm parameter

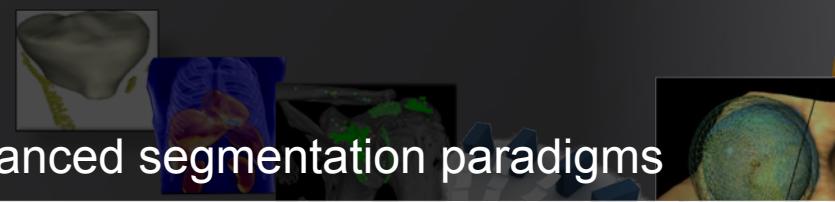
The norm parameter  $\alpha > 1$  is automatically estimated

- Decision:  $y_u \rightarrow i(y_u)$  such that  $p_{u,i(y_u)}$  is maximal.

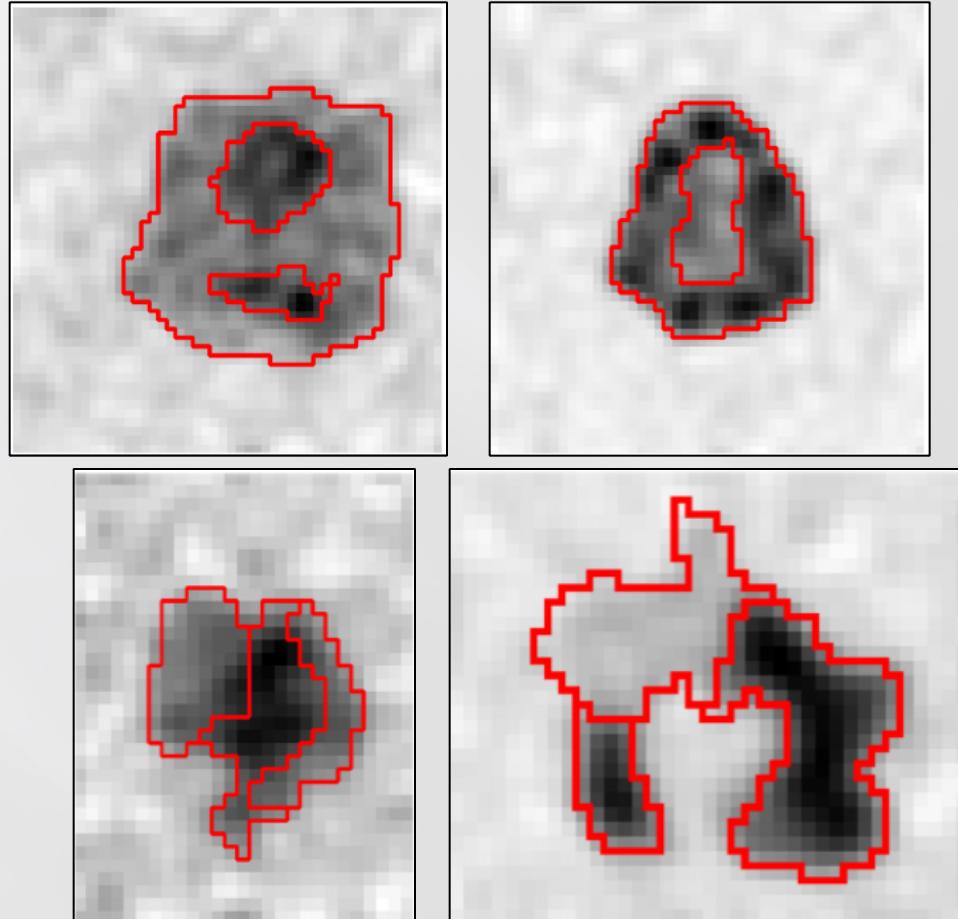


# PET segmentation

Beyond thresholds: the era of advanced segmentation paradigms



34 tumors simulated with Geant4 Application for Tomography Emission<sup>1-2</sup>

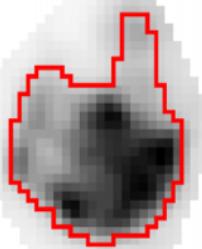
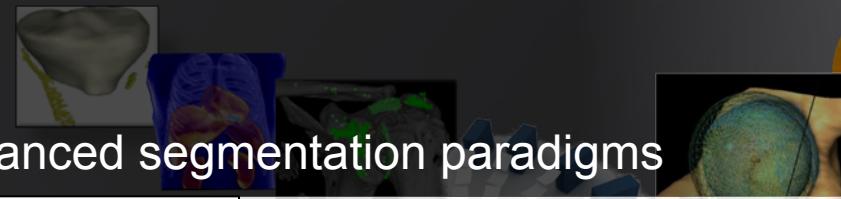


Ground-truth provided by known simulated map

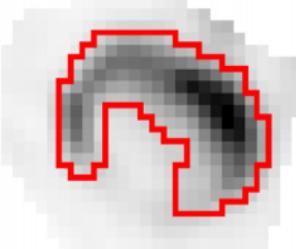
1. P. Papadimitroulas, *et al.* Investigation of realistic PET simulations incorporating tumor patient's specificity using anthropomorphic models: creation of an oncology database. *Med Phys* 2013
2. A. Le Maitre, *et al.* Incorporating patient specific variability in the simulation of realistic whole body 18F-FDG distributions for oncology applications. *Proceedings of the IEEE* 2009

# PET segmentation

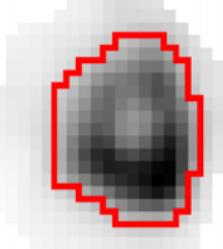
Beyond thresholds: the era of advanced segmentation paradigms



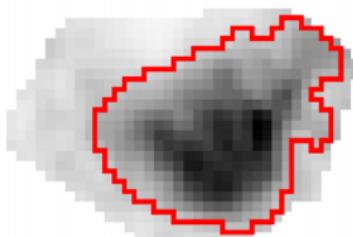
(a)



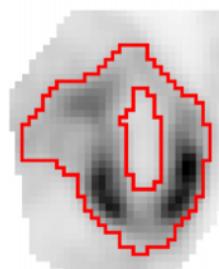
(b)



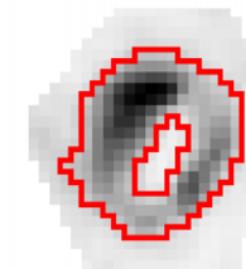
(c)



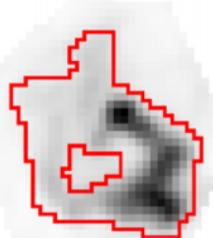
(d)



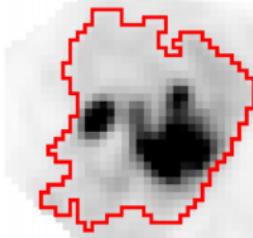
(e)



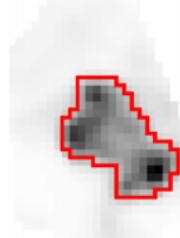
(f)



(g)



(h)



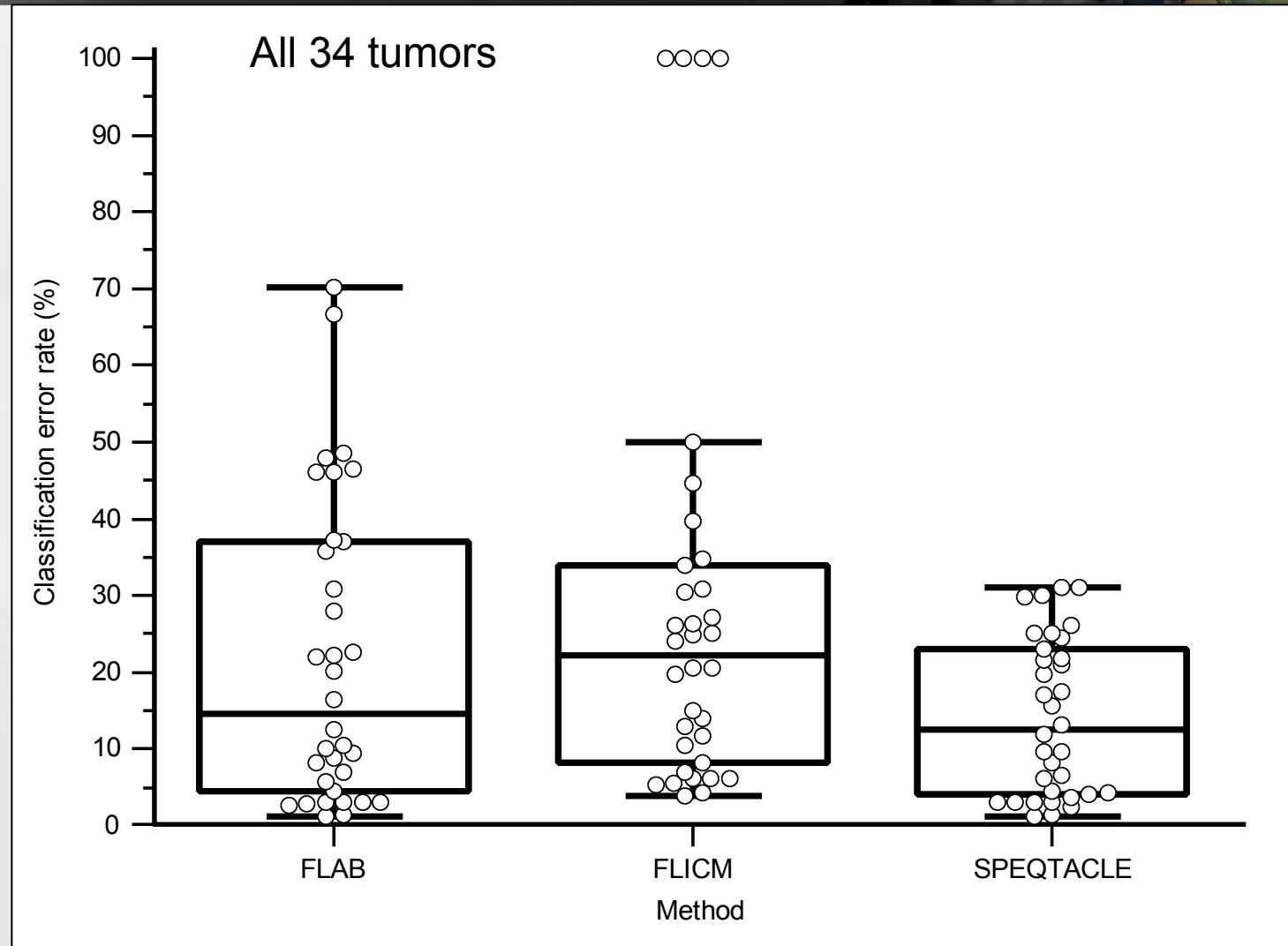
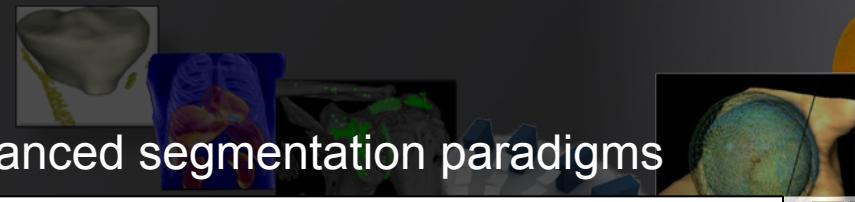
(i)

9 clinical non-small cell lung tumors

Ground-truth provided by statistical consensus of 3 # manual delineations with the STAPLE<sup>1</sup> algorithm

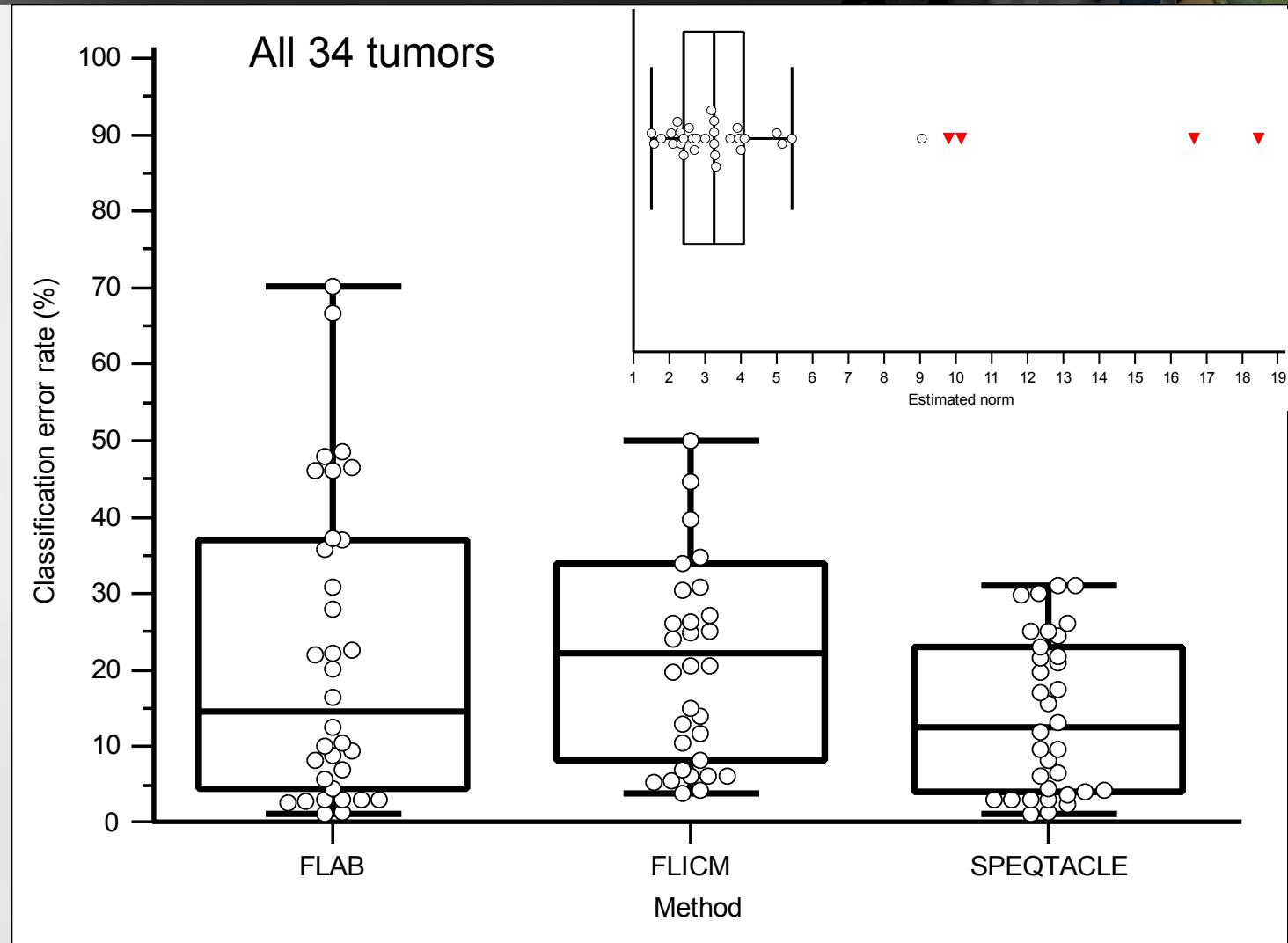
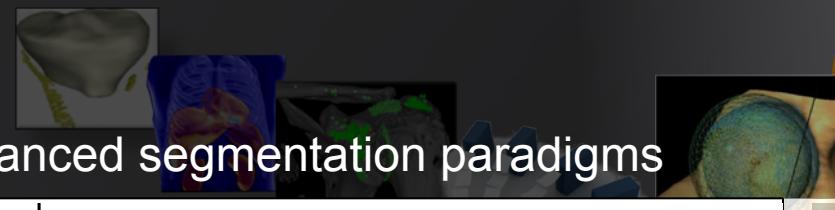
# PET segmentation

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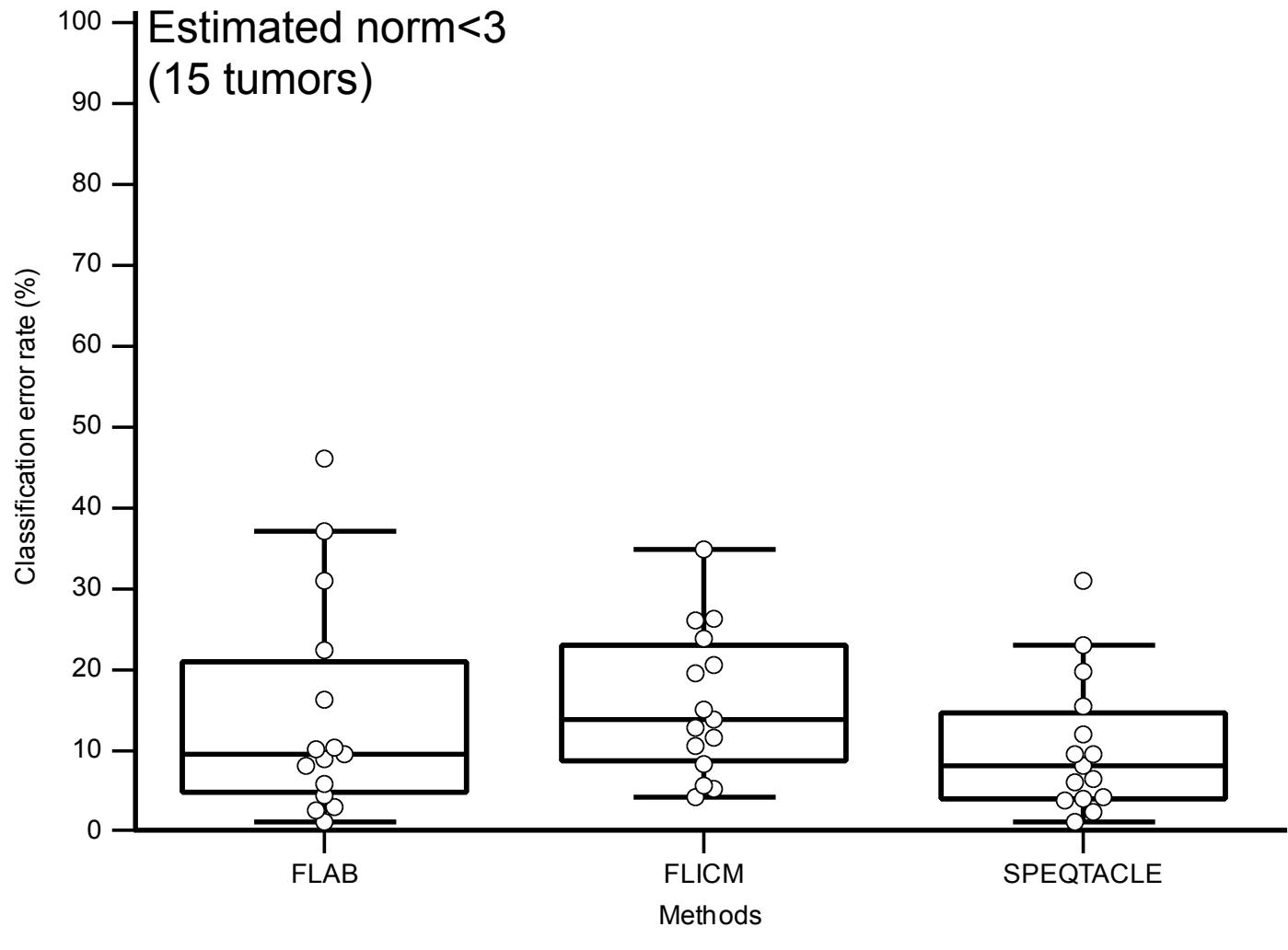
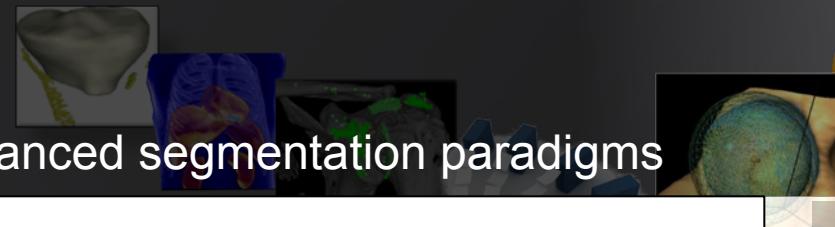
# PET segmentation

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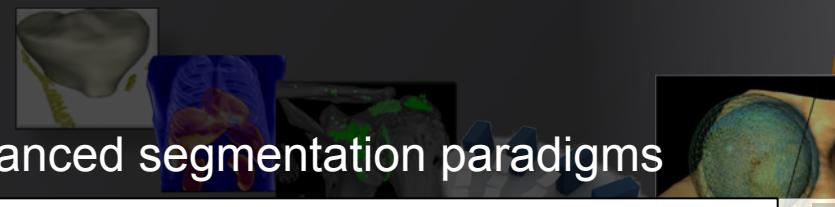


# PET segmentation

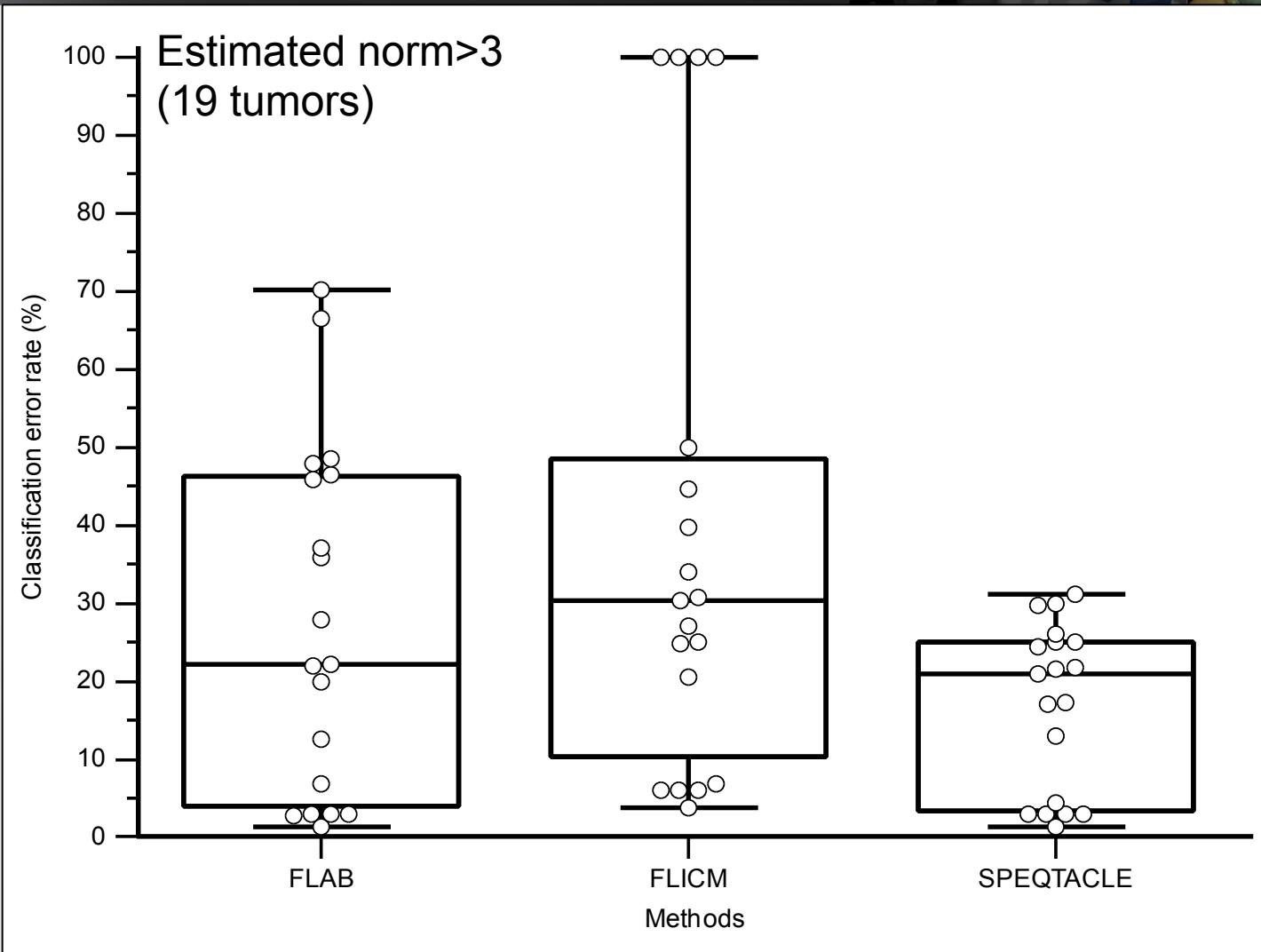
Beyond thresholds: the era of advanced segmentation paradigms



# PET segmentation

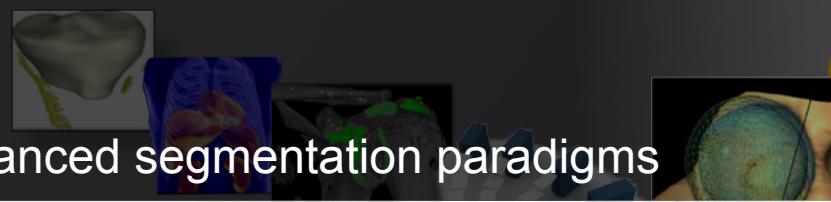


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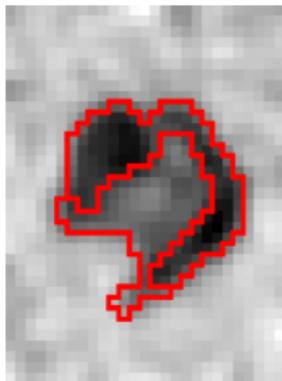


# PET segmentation

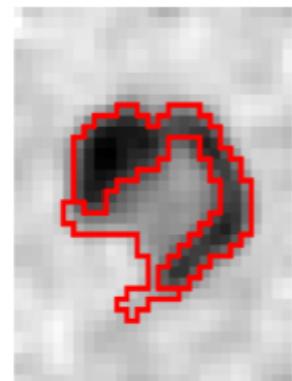
Beyond thresholds: the era of advanced segmentation paradigms



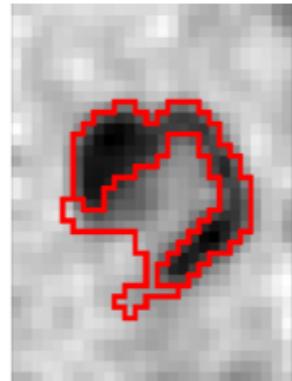
Ground-truth



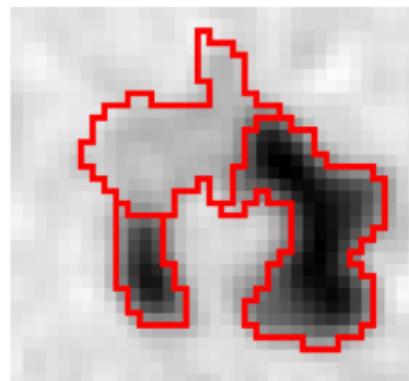
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Norm=5

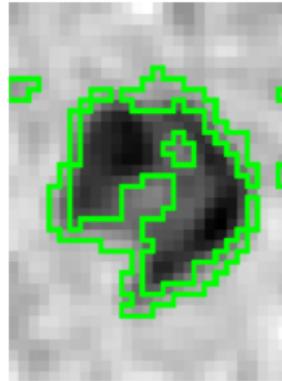


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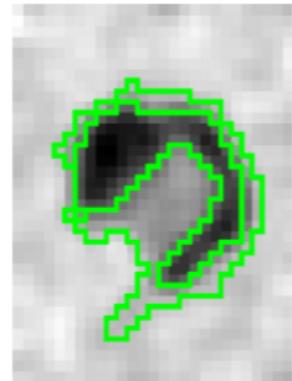


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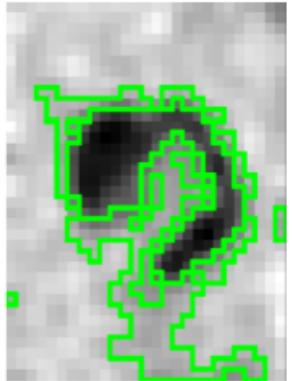
FLAB



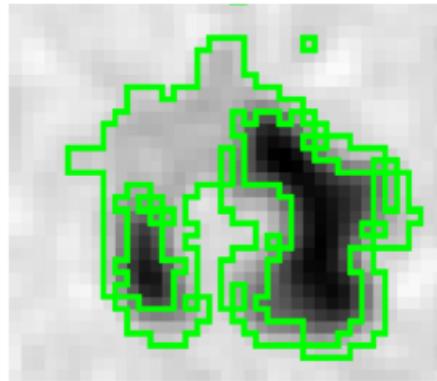
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CE=28%



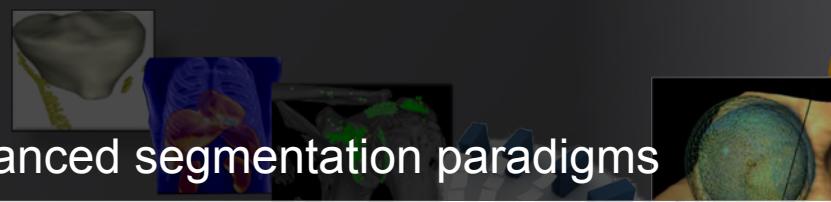
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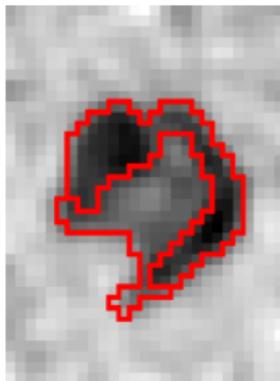
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# PET segmentation

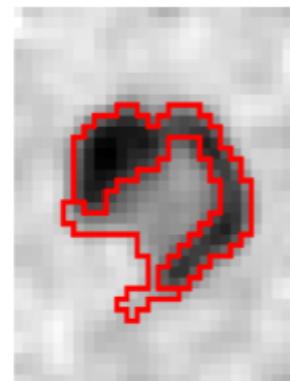
Beyond thresholds: the era of advanced segmentation paradigms



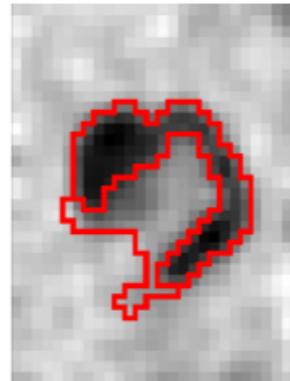
Ground-truth



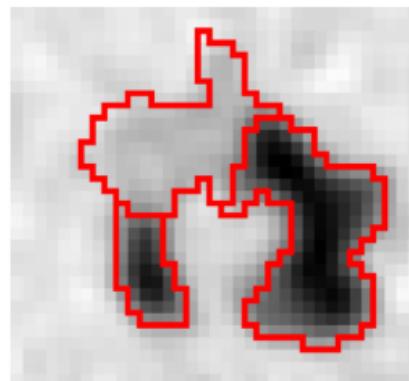
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Norm=5

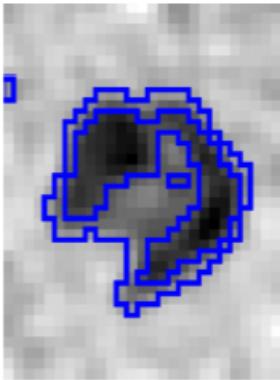


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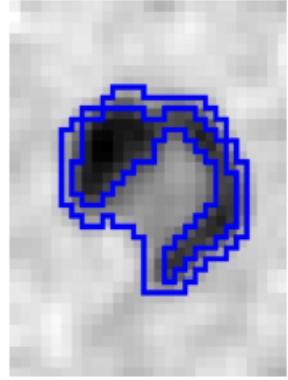


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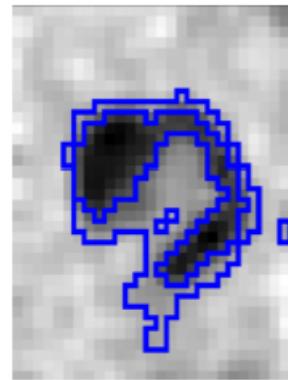
SPEQTACLE



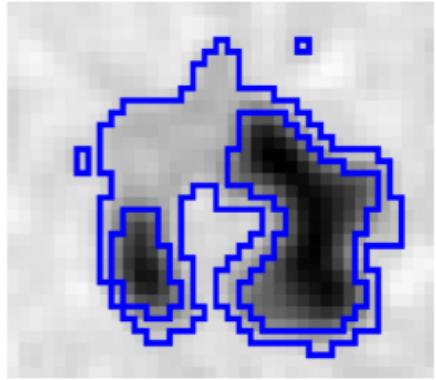
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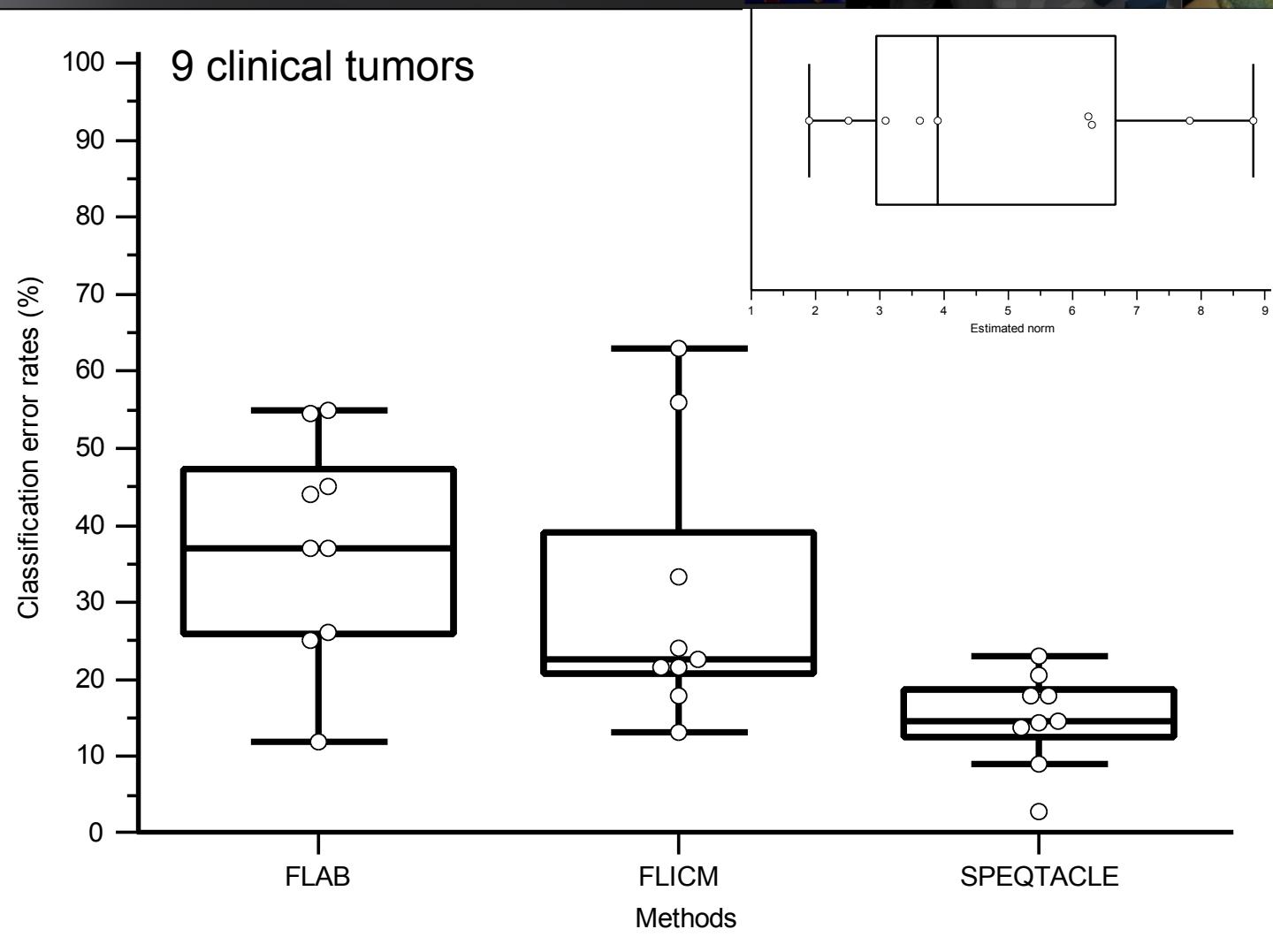
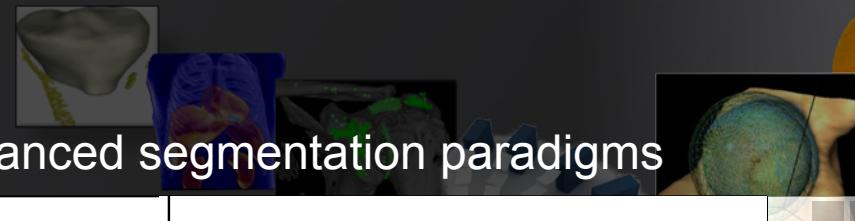
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CE=30%

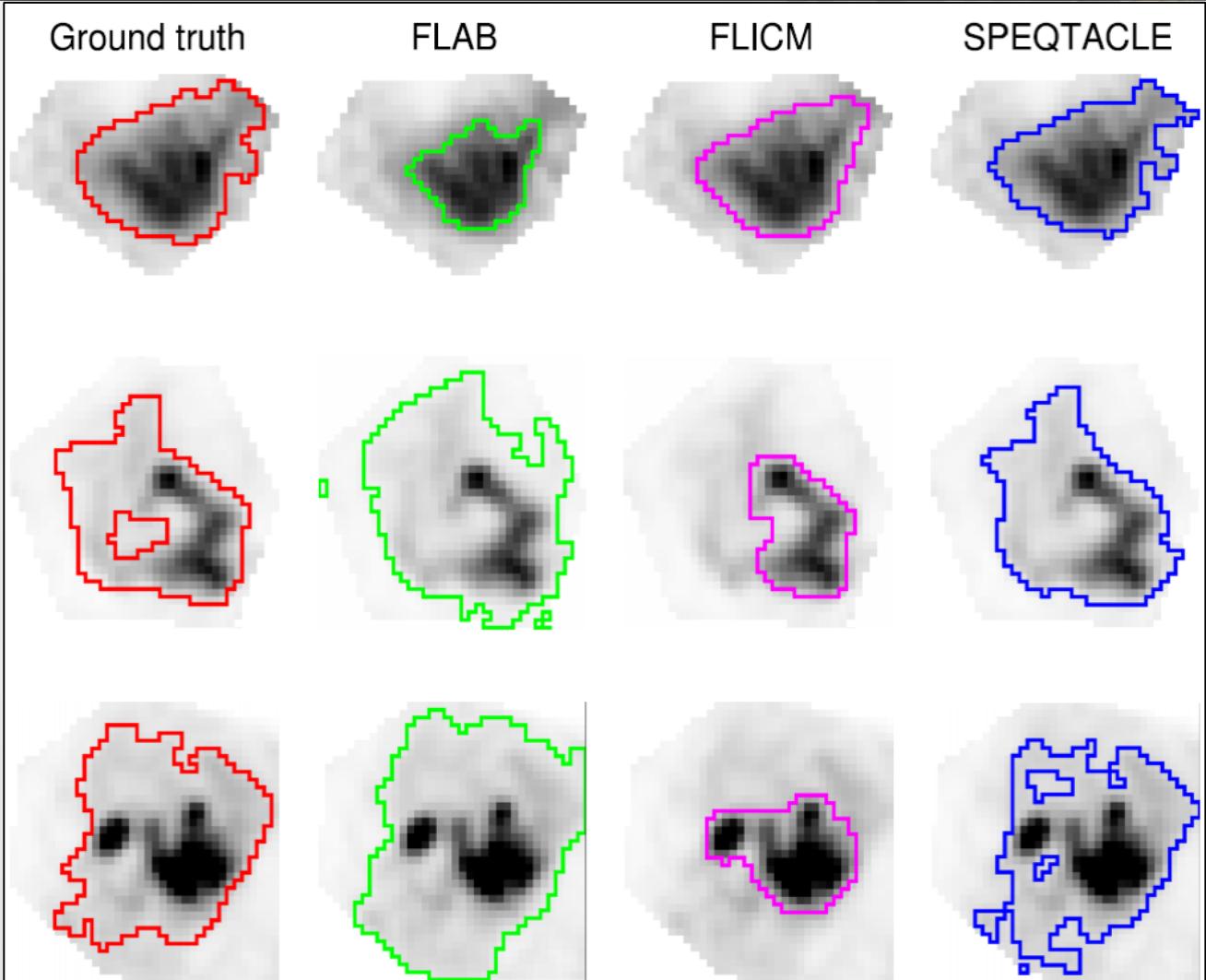
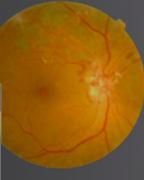
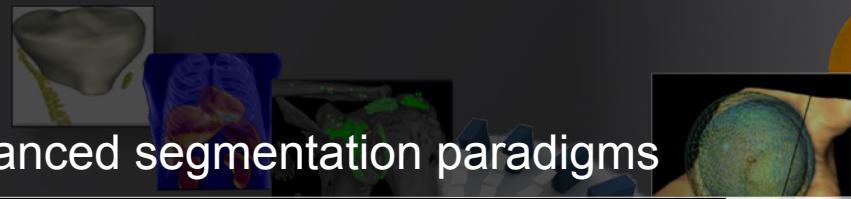
# PET segmentation

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# PET segmentation

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# PET/CT segmentation

## Multimodality segmentation



2007, 2009

- First papers

### Concurrent multimodality image segmentation by active contours for radiotherapy treatment planning<sup>a)</sup>

Issam El Naqa,<sup>b)</sup> Deshan Yang, Aditya Apte, Divya Khullar, Sasa Mutic, Jie Zheng, Jeffrey D. Bradley, Perry Grigsby, and Joseph O. Deasy

*Department of Radiation Oncology, School of Medicine, Washington University, St. Louis, Missouri 63110*

(Received 18 December 2006; revised 24 September 2007;  
accepted for publication 24 September 2007; published 20 November 2007)



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0360-3016/09/\$—see front matter

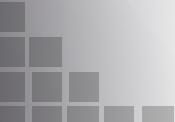
doi:10.1016/j.ijrobp.2009.04.043

#### PHYSICS CONTRIBUTION

#### AUTOMATED RADIATION TARGETING IN HEAD-AND-NECK CANCER USING REGION-BASED TEXTURE ANALYSIS OF PET AND CT IMAGES

HUAN YU, M.Sc., \* CURTIS CALDWELL, Ph.D., \*† KATHERINE MAH, M.Sc., †‡ IAN POON, M.D., †§  
JUDITH BALOGH, M.D., †§ ROBERT MACKENZIE, M.D., †§ NADER KHAOUAM, M.D., †§  
AND ROMEO TIRONA, B.S.<sup>†</sup>

Departments of \* Medical Biophysics and <sup>†</sup>Radiation Oncology, University of Toronto, Toronto, ON, Canada; Departments of  
<sup>†</sup>Medical Physics and <sup>§</sup>Radiation Oncology, Odette Cancer Centre, Sunnybrook Health Science Center, Toronto, ON, Canada



# PET/CT segmentation

Multimodality segmentation

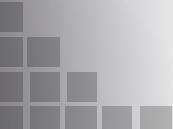


## ➤ Segmentation using textural features

- Goal: delineate the tumors in H&N cancer using both PET and CT images

Yu, et al. Automated radiation targeting in head-and-neck cancer using region-based texture analysis of PET and CT images. *Int J Radiat Oncol Biol Phys.* 2009

Yu, et al. Coregistered FDG PET/CT-based textural characterization of head and neck cancer for radiation treatment planning. *IEEE Trans Med Imaging.* 2009



# PET/CT segmentation

Multimodality segmentation



## Segmentation using textural features

- Goal: delineate the tumors in H&N cancer using both PET and CT images
- Method: mimic radiation oncologists: train the algorithm to differentiate pathological from normal tissues using their PET/CT textural properties

Yu, et al. Automated radiation targeting in head-and-neck cancer using region-based texture analysis of PET and CT images. *Int J Radiat Oncol Biol Phys.* 2009

Yu, et al. Coregistered FDG PET/CT-based textural characterization of head and neck cancer for radiation treatment planning. *IEEE Trans Med Imaging.* 2009



## Segmentation using textural features

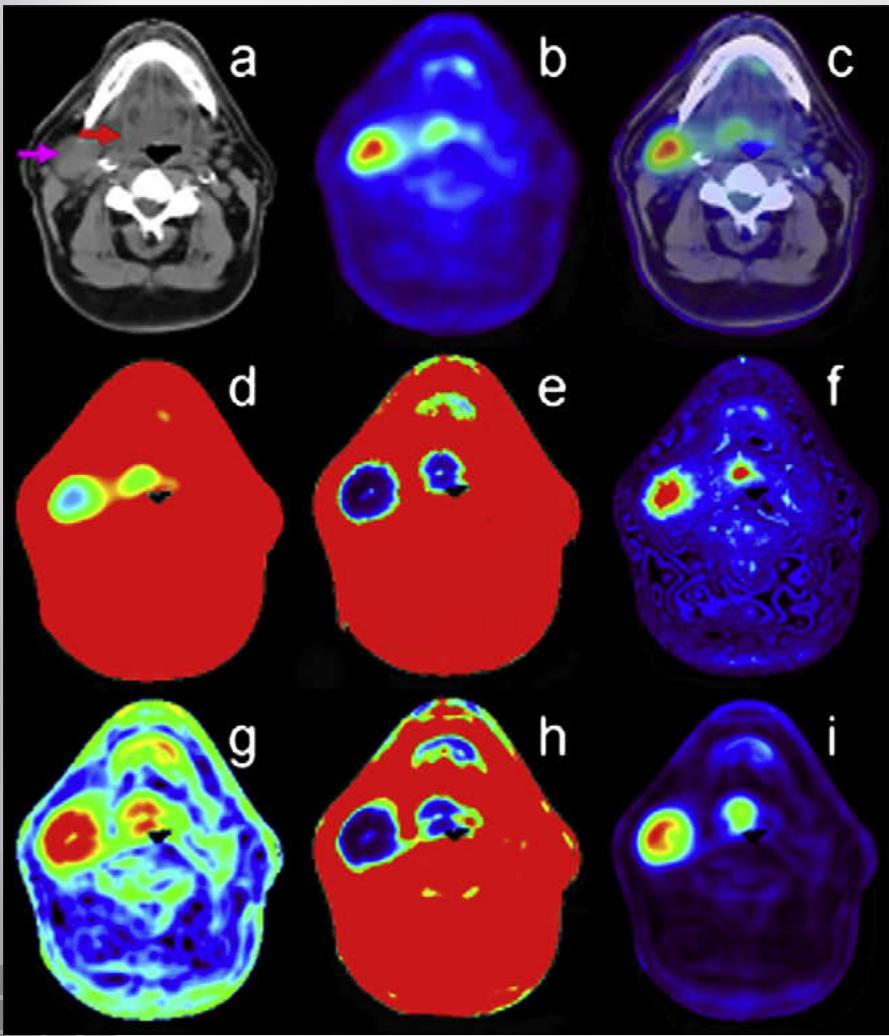
- Goal: delineate the tumors in H&N cancer using both PET and CT images
- Method: mimic radiation oncologists: train the algorithm to differentiate pathological from normal tissues using their PET/CT textural properties
- Assumptions: radiation oncologists' delineations are accurate and reliable, training is not too specific

Yu, et al. Automated radiation targeting in head-and-neck cancer using region-based texture analysis of PET and CT images. *Int J Radiat Oncol Biol Phys.* 2009

Yu, et al. Coregistered FDG PET/CT-based textural characterization of head and neck cancer for radiation treatment planning. *IEEE Trans Med Imaging.* 2009

# PET/CT segmentation

## Multimodality segmentation



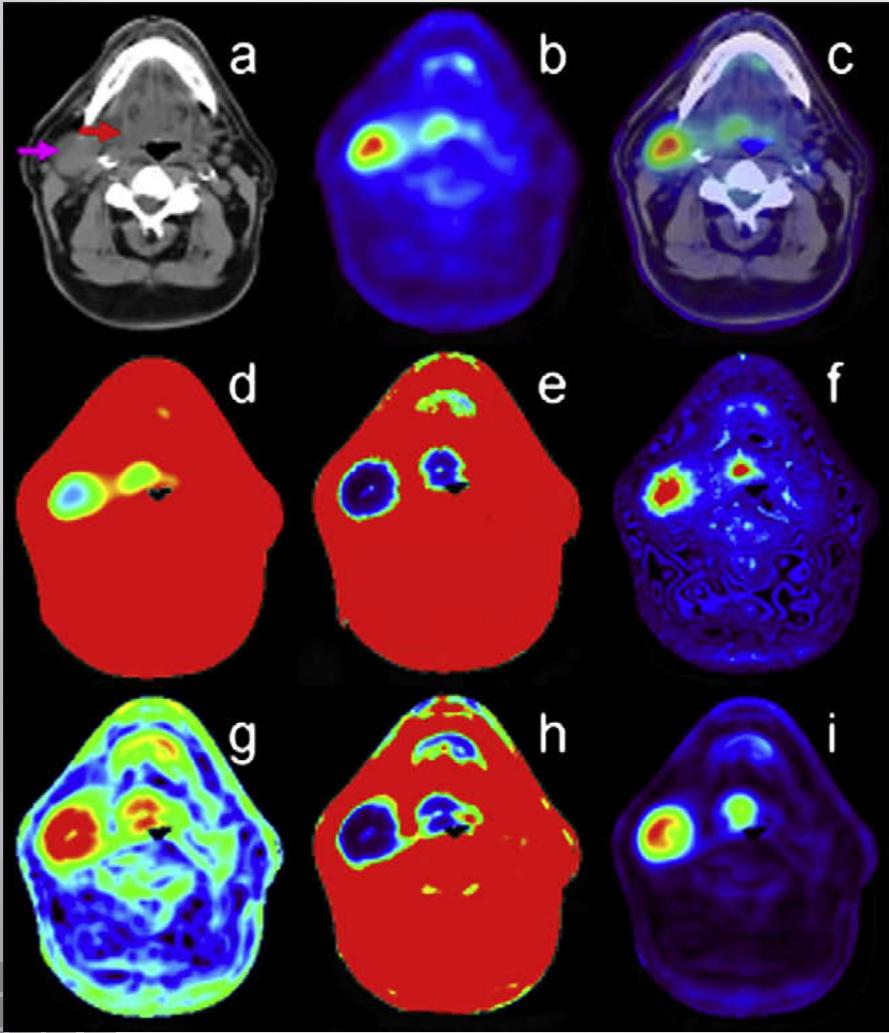
(a) CT, (b) PET, (c) PET/CT fusion  
 (d,j) coarseness, (e,k) busyness, (f,l)  
 contrast, (g,m) entropy, (h,n) energy, (i,o)  
 standard deviation

Yu, et al. Automated radiation targeting in head-and-neck cancer using region-based texture analysis of PET and CT images. *Int J Radiat Oncol Biol Phys.* 2009

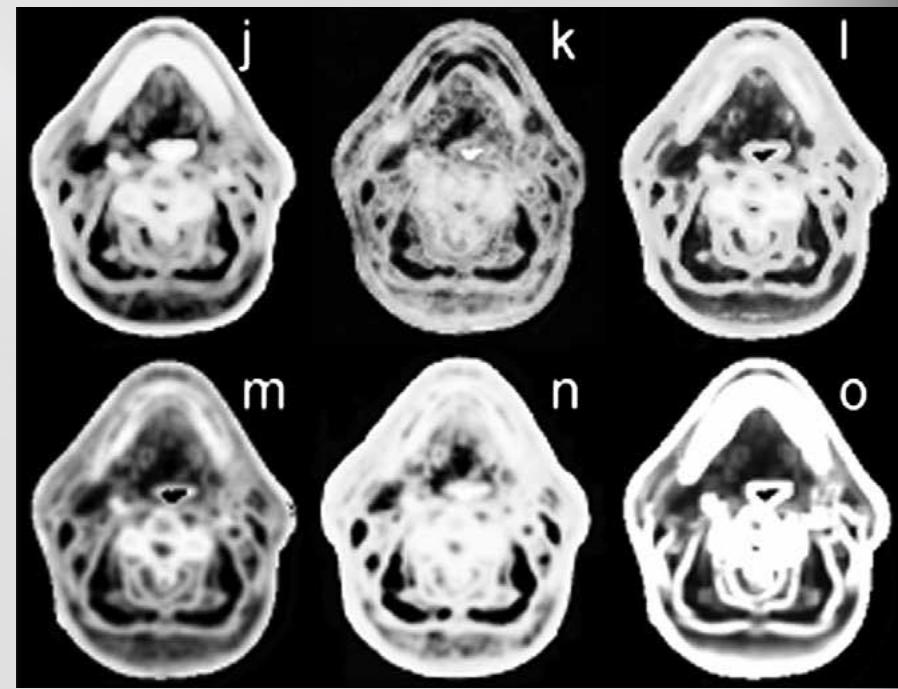
Yu, et al. Coregistered FDG PET/CT-based textural characterization of head and neck cancer for radiation treatment planning. *IEEE Trans Med Imaging.* 2009

# PET/CT segmentation

## Multimodality segmentation



(a) CT, (b) PET, (c) PET/CT fusion  
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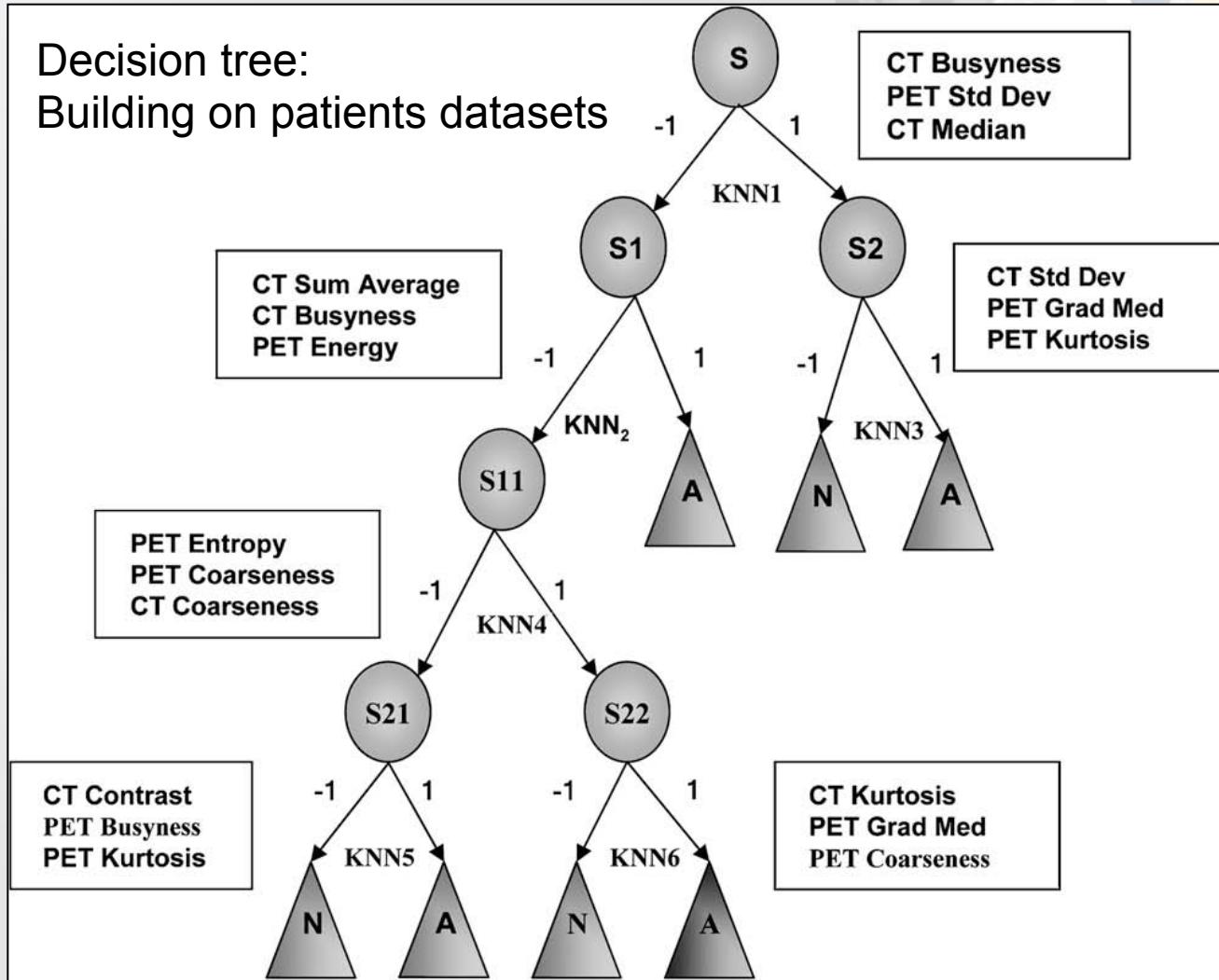
Yu, et al. Coregistered FDG PET/CT-based textural characterization of head and neck cancer for radiation treatment planning. *IEEE Trans Med Imaging.* 2009

# PET/CT segmentation

## Multimodality segmentation



Decision tree:  
Building on patients datasets

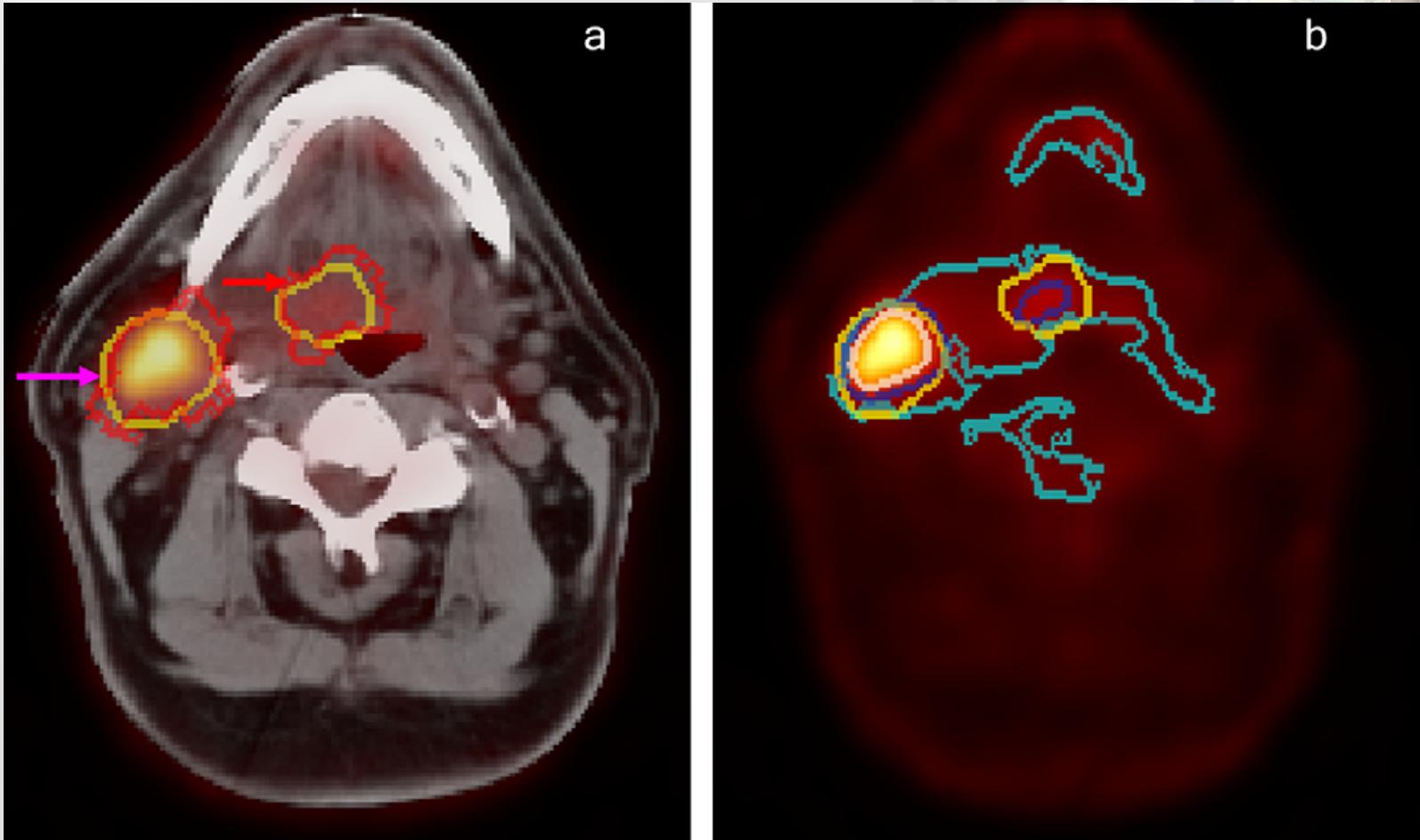
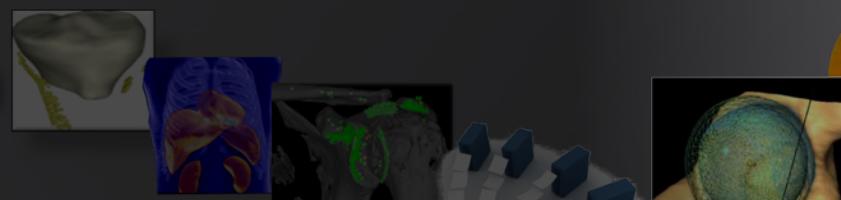


Yu, et al. Automated radiation targeting in head-and-neck cancer using region-based texture analysis of PET and CT images. *Int J Radiat Oncol Biol Phys.* 2009

Yu, et al. Coregistered FDG PET/CT-based textural characterization of head and neck cancer for radiation treatment planning. *IEEE Trans Med Imaging.* 2009

# PET/CT segmentation

## Multimodality segmentation



Experts   Textures    $SUV > 2.5$    Adaptive thresholding   50%  $SUV_{max}$

Yu, et al. Automated radiation targeting in head-and-neck cancer using region-based texture analysis of PET and CT images. *Int J Radiat Oncol Biol Phys.* 2009

Yu, et al. Coregistered FDG PET/CT-based textural characterization of head and neck cancer for radiation treatment planning. *IEEE Trans Med Imaging.* 2009

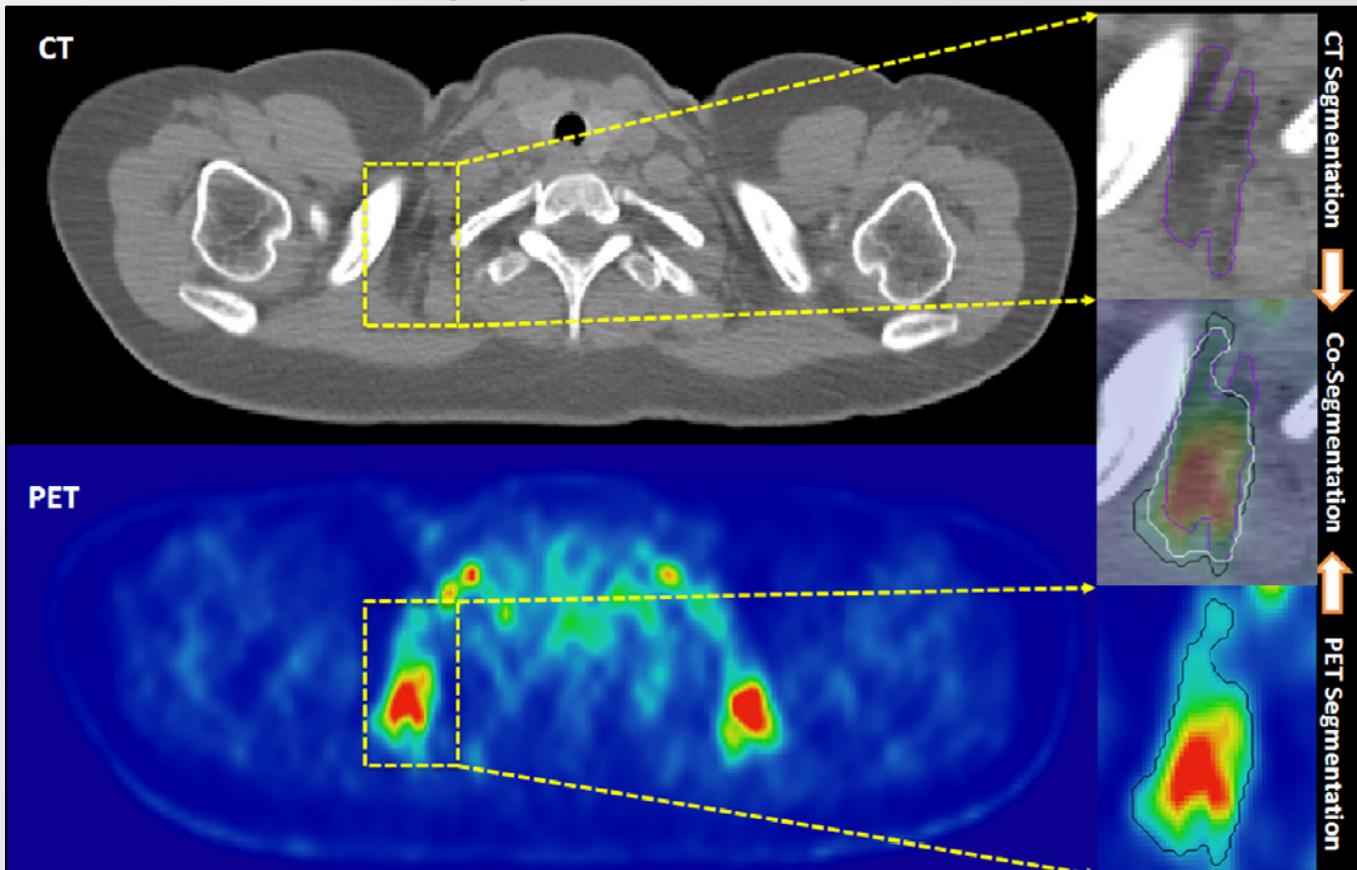
# PET/CT segmentation

Multimodality segmentation



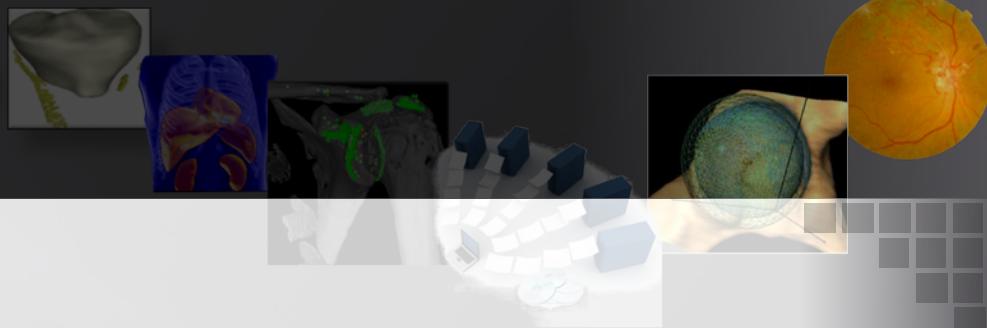
2011-today

- Numerous new papers



# PET/CT segmentation

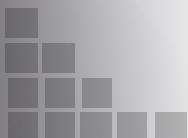
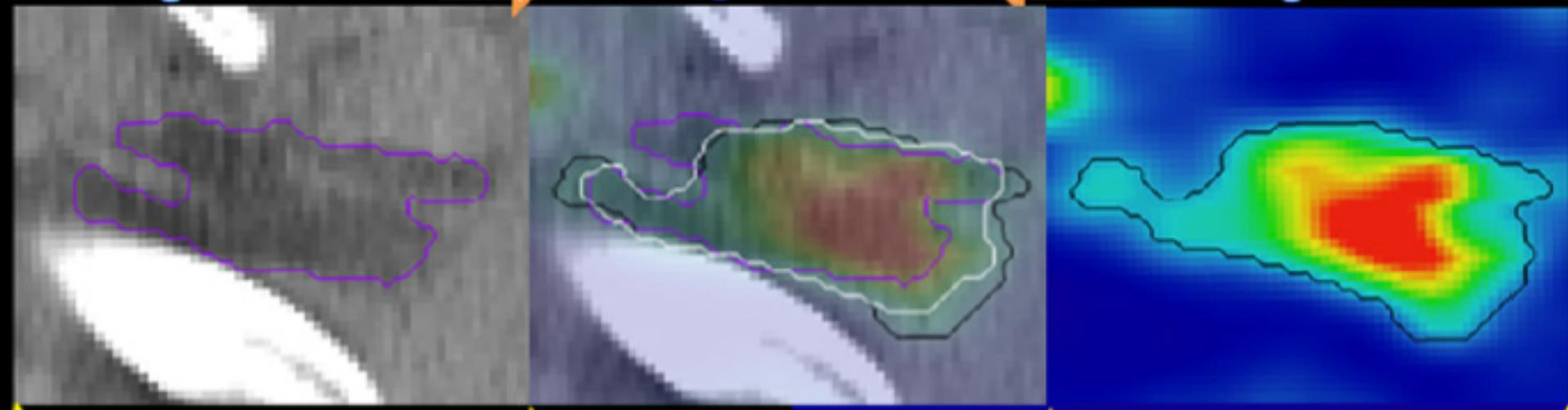
Multimodality segmentation



2011-today

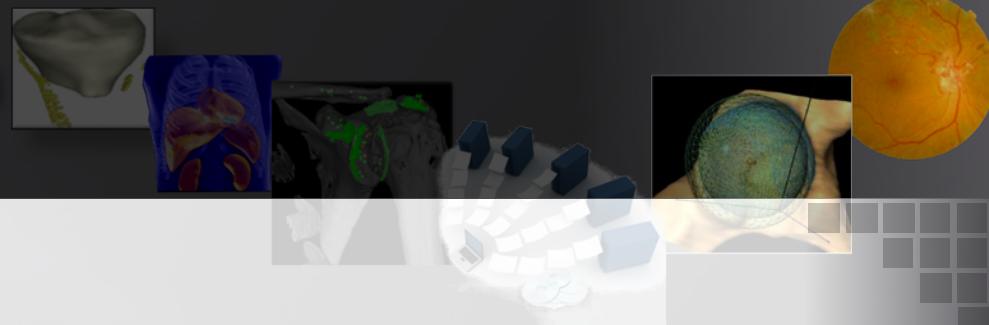
- Numerous new papers

CT Segmentation → Co-Segmentation ← PET Segmentation



# PET/CT segmentation

## Multimodality segmentation



2011-today

- Numerous new papers

Medical Image Analysis 17 (2013) 929–945



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Medical Image Analysis

journal homepage: [www.elsevier.com/locate/media](http://www.elsevier.com/locate/media)



Joint segmentation of anatomical and functional images: Applications in quantification of lesions from PET, PET-CT, MRI-PET, and MRI-PET-CT images



Ulas Bagci <sup>a,b,\*</sup>, Jayaram K. Udupa <sup>c</sup>, Neil Mendhiratta <sup>b,d</sup>, Brent Foster <sup>b</sup>, Ziyue Xu <sup>b</sup>, Jianhua Yao <sup>b</sup>, Xinjian Chen <sup>e</sup>, Daniel J. Mollura <sup>a,b</sup>

<sup>a</sup> Center for Infectious Diseases Imaging, National Institutes of Health, Bethesda, MD, United States

<sup>b</sup> Department of Radiology and Imaging Sciences, National Institutes of Health, Bethesda, MD, United States

<sup>c</sup> Department of Radiology, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA, United States

<sup>d</sup> NYU School of Medicine, New York City, NY, United States

<sup>e</sup> School of electronics and Information Engineering Soochow University, China

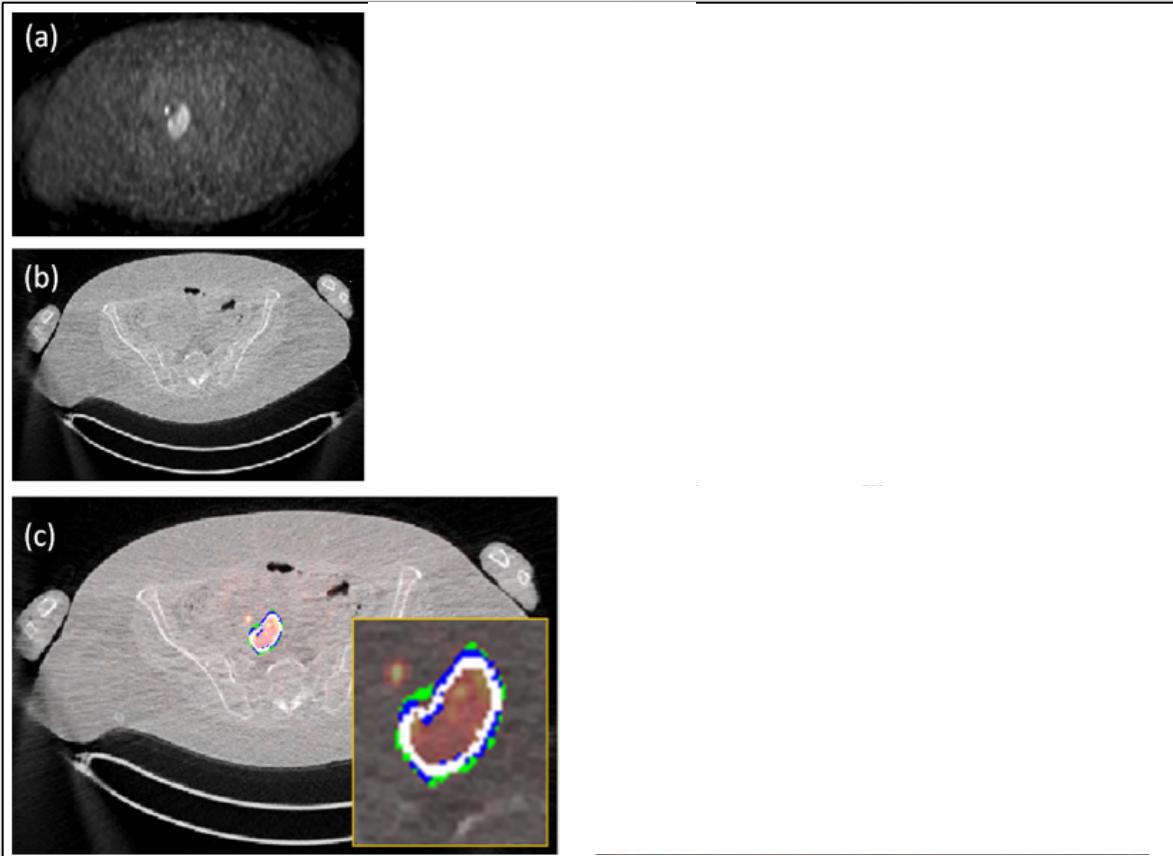
# PET/CT segmentation

## Multimodality segmentation



2011-today

- Numerous new papers



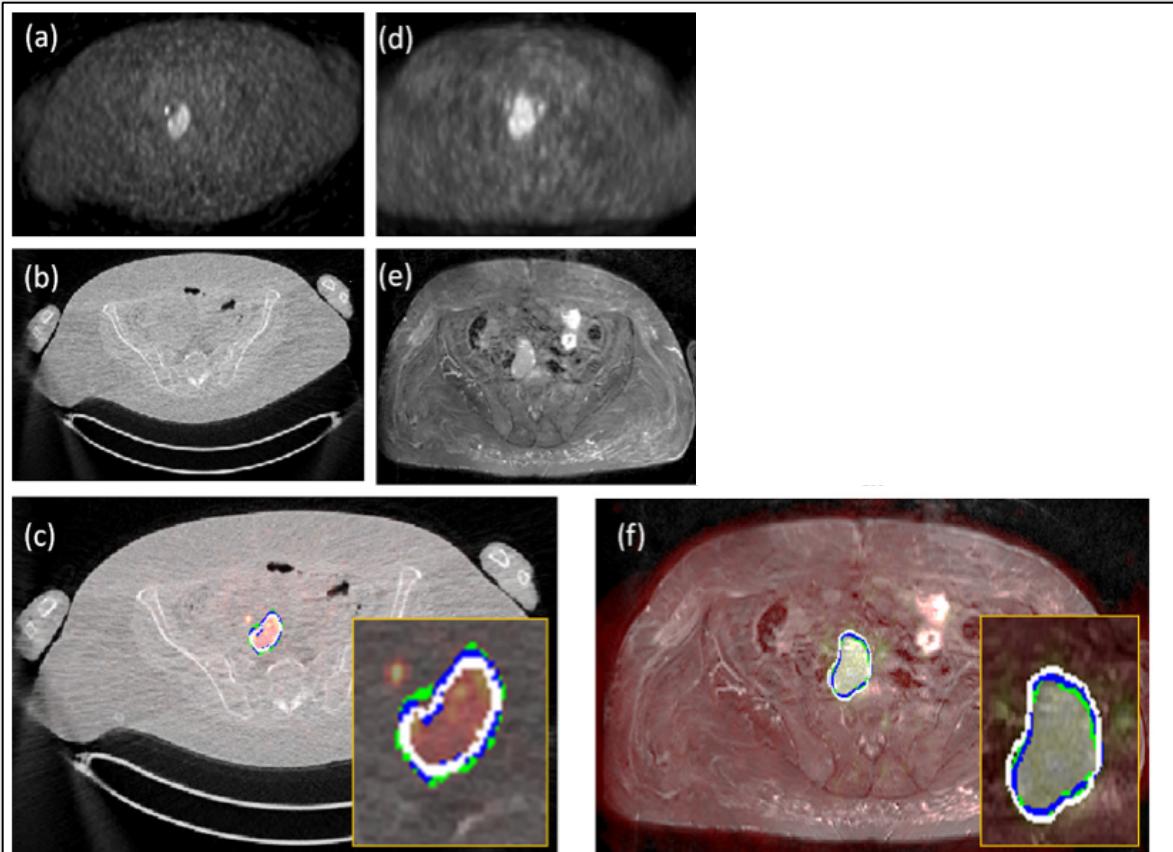
# PET/CT segmentation

## Multimodality segmentation



2011-today

- Numerous new papers



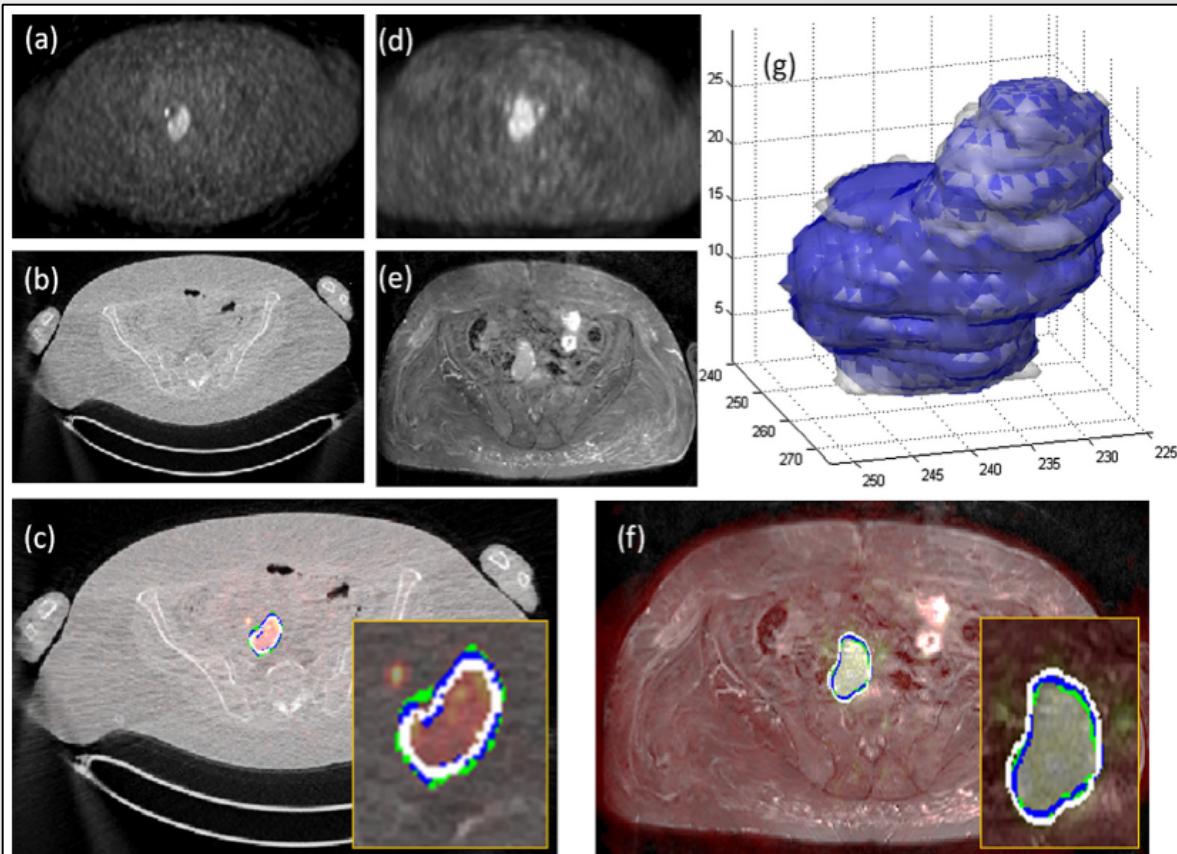
# PET/CT segmentation

## Multimodality segmentation



2011-today

- Numerous new papers



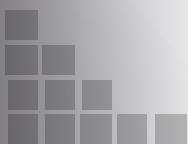
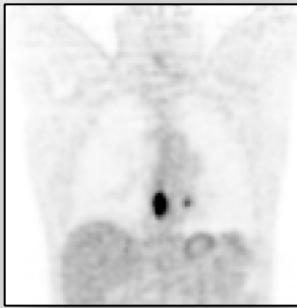
# PET segmentation

## Reproducibility and robustness



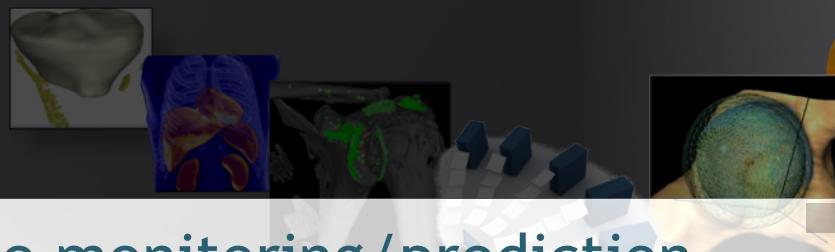
### ► PET/CT: therapy response monitoring/prediction

Pre treatment  
("baseline")

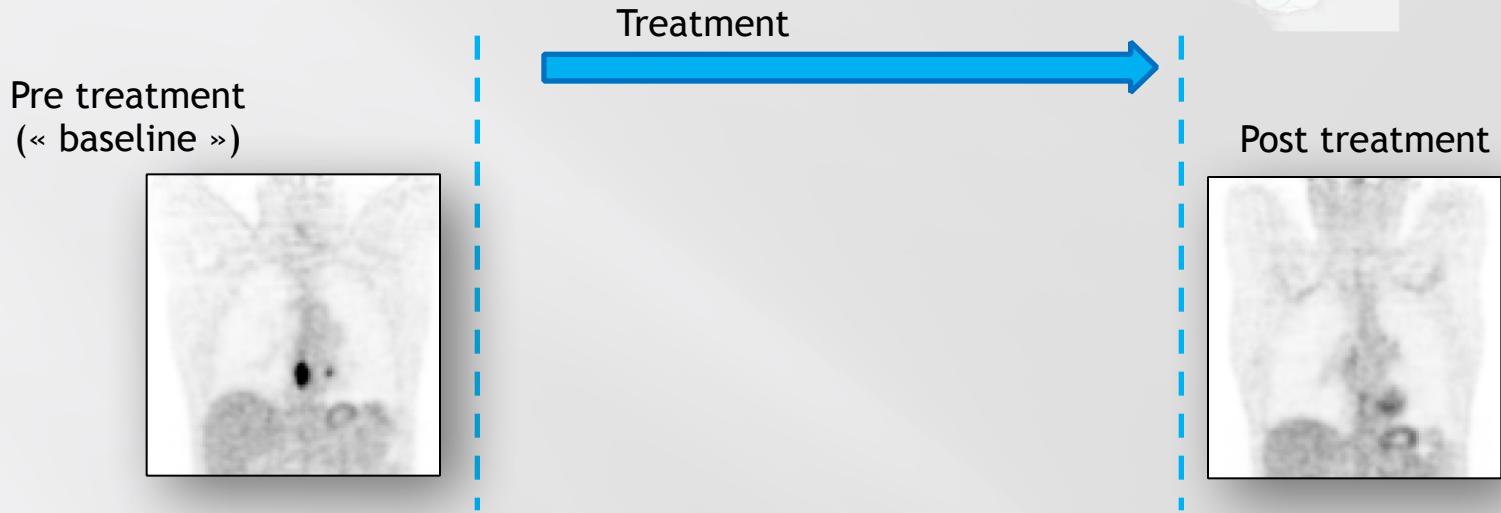


# PET segmentation

Reproducibility and robustness



## PET/CT: therapy response monitoring/prediction



# PET segmentation

Reproducibility and robustness



## PET/CT: therapy response monitoring/prediction

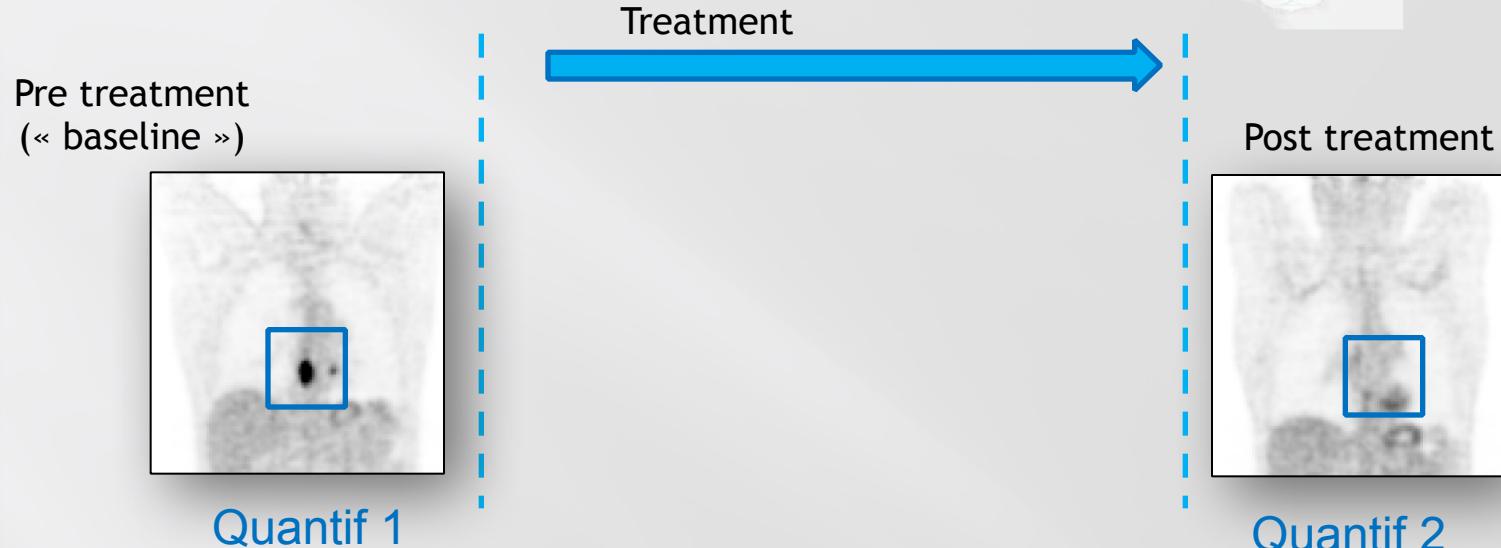


# PET segmentation

Reproducibility and robustness

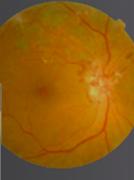


## PET/CT: therapy response monitoring/prediction

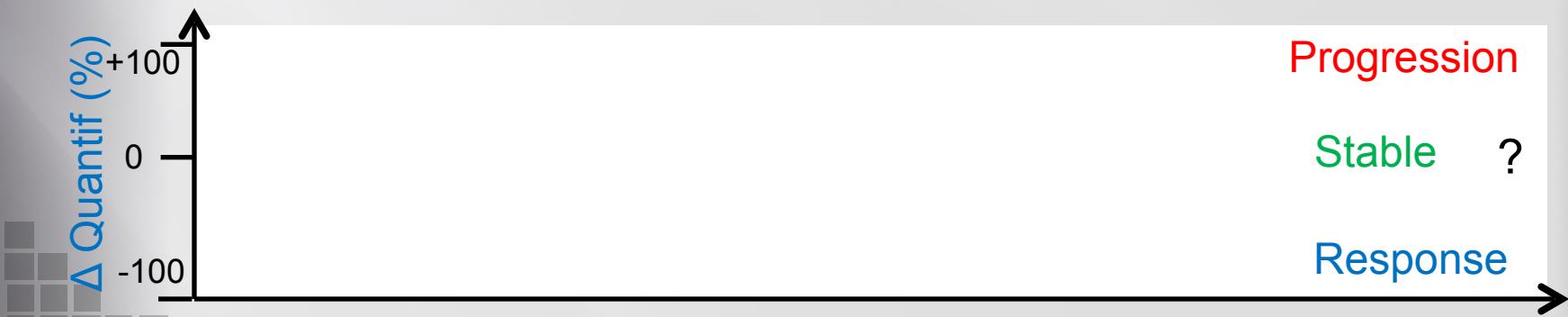
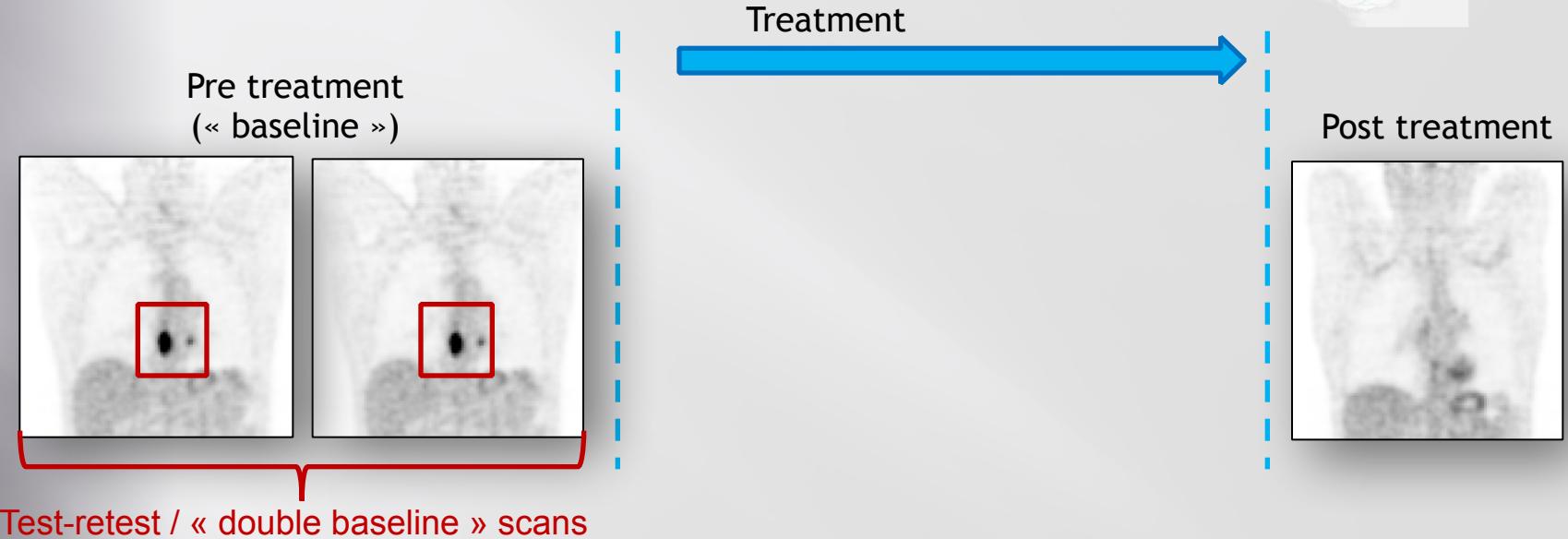


# PET segmentation

Reproducibility and robustness

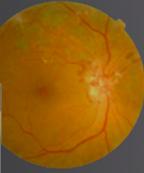


## PET/CT: therapy response monitoring/prediction

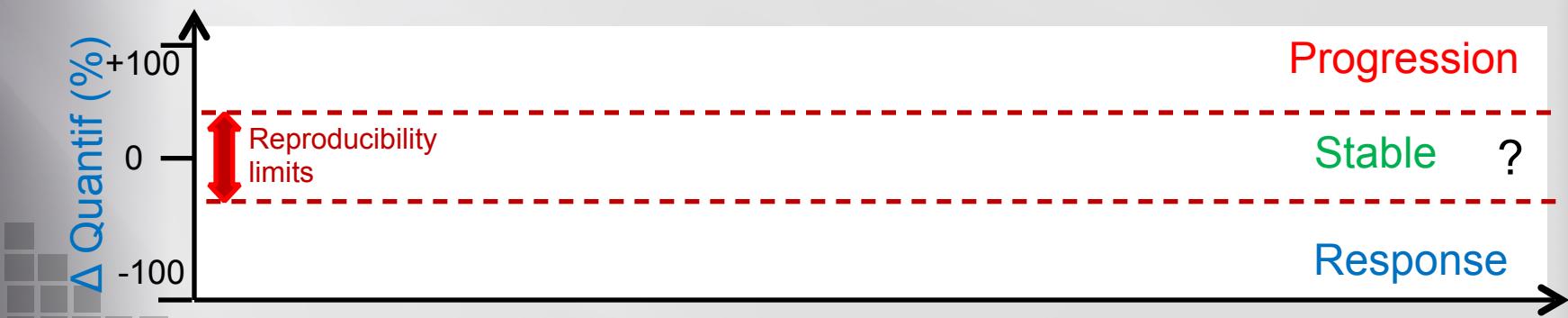
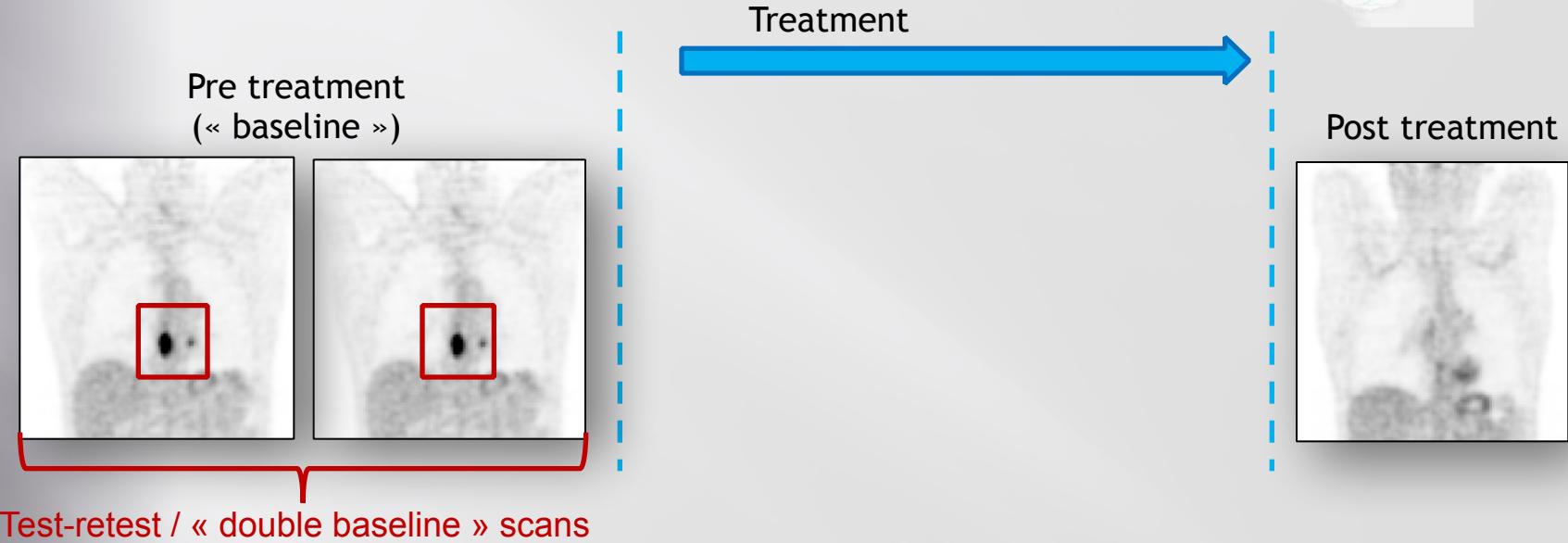


# PET segmentation

Reproducibility and robustness



## PET/CT: therapy response monitoring/prediction

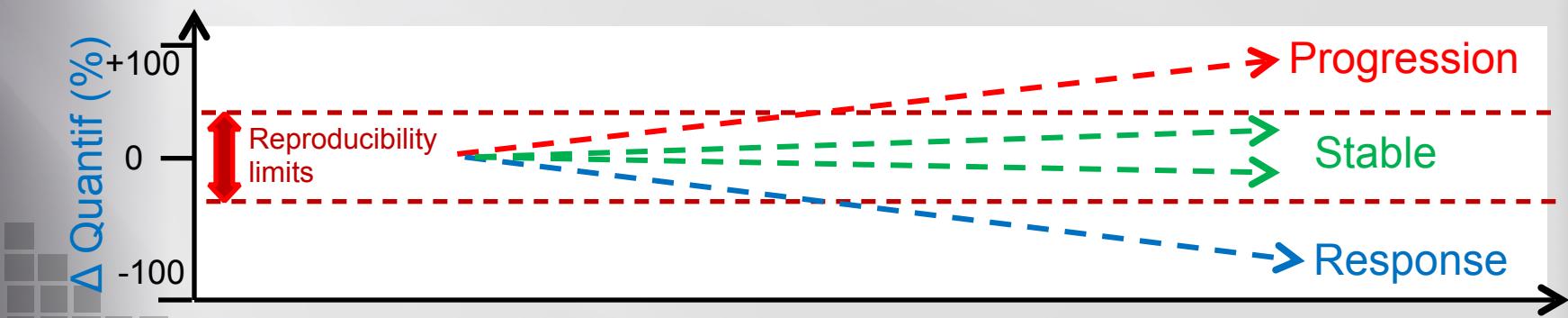
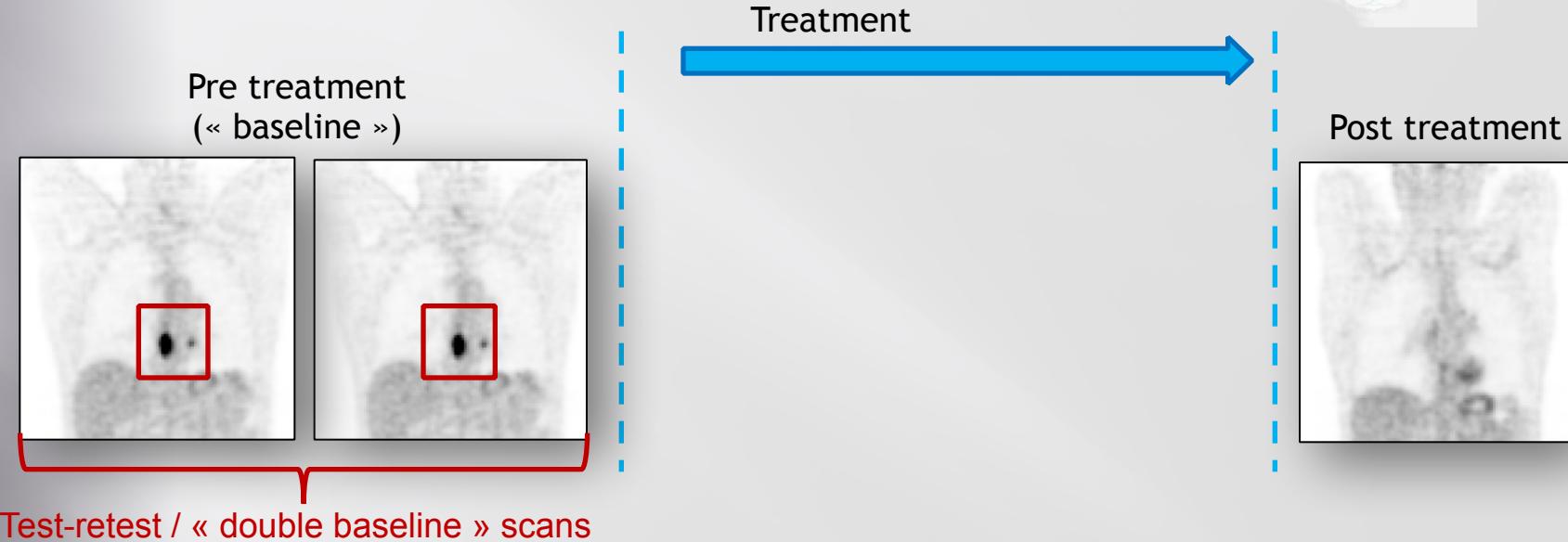


# PET segmentation

Reproducibility and robustness

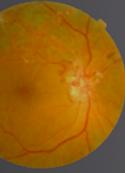


## PET/CT: therapy response monitoring/prediction

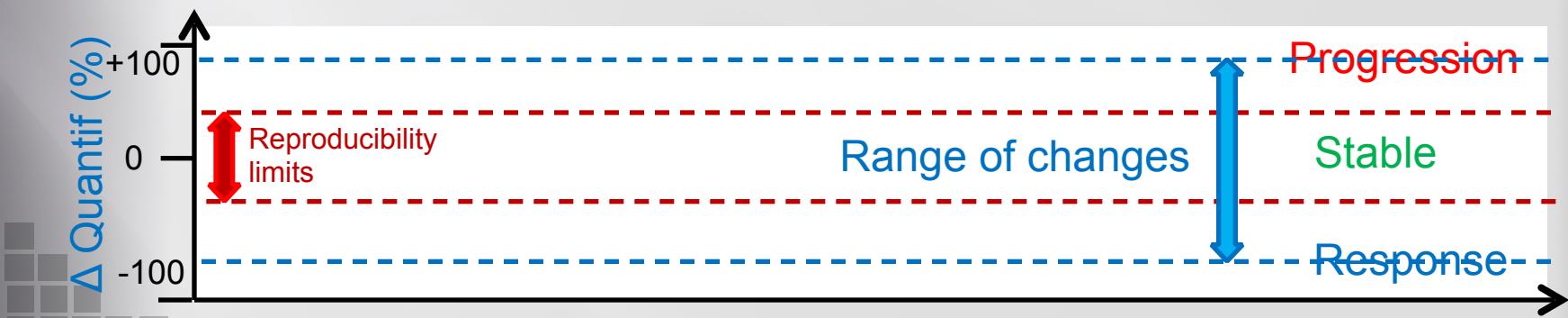
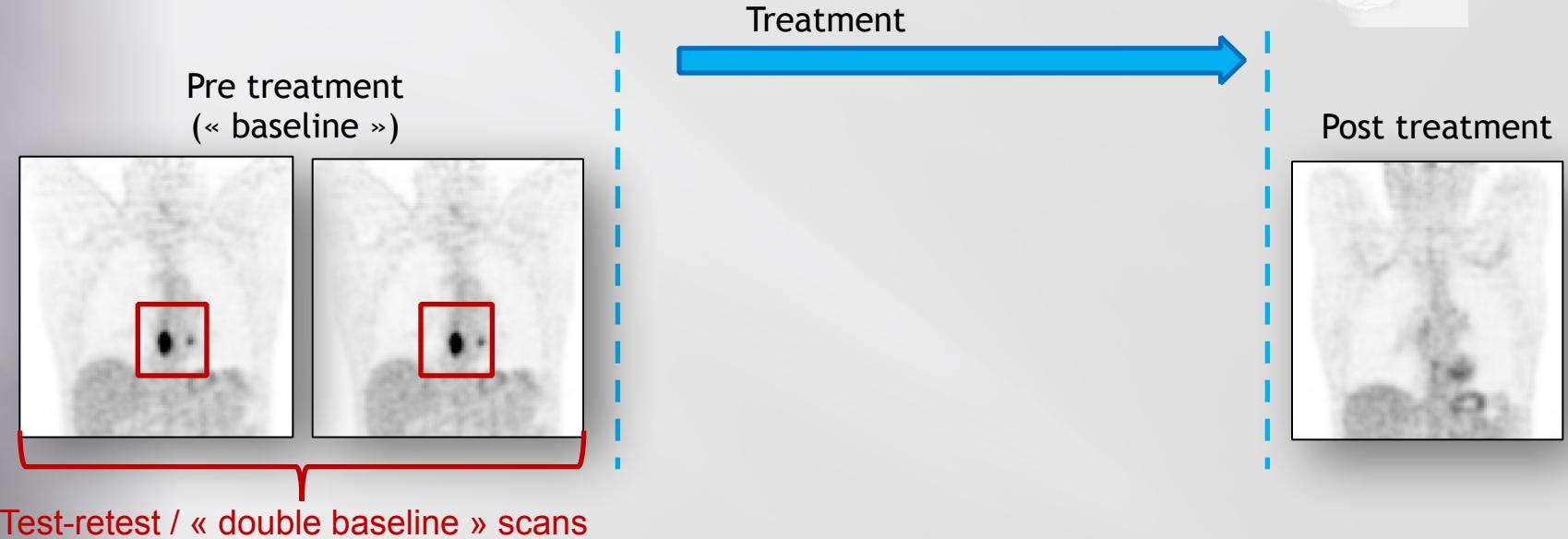


# PET segmentation

Reproducibility and robustness

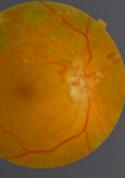


## PET/CT: therapy response monitoring/prediction

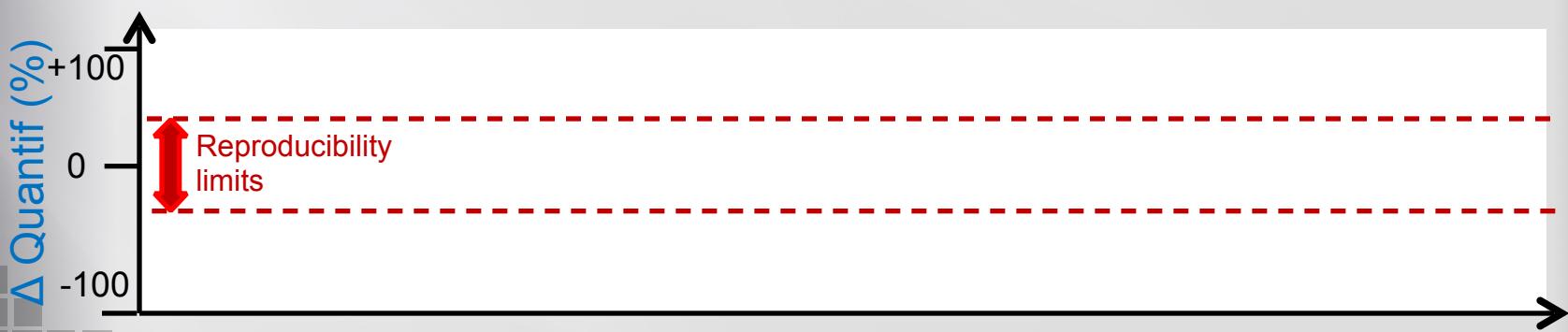
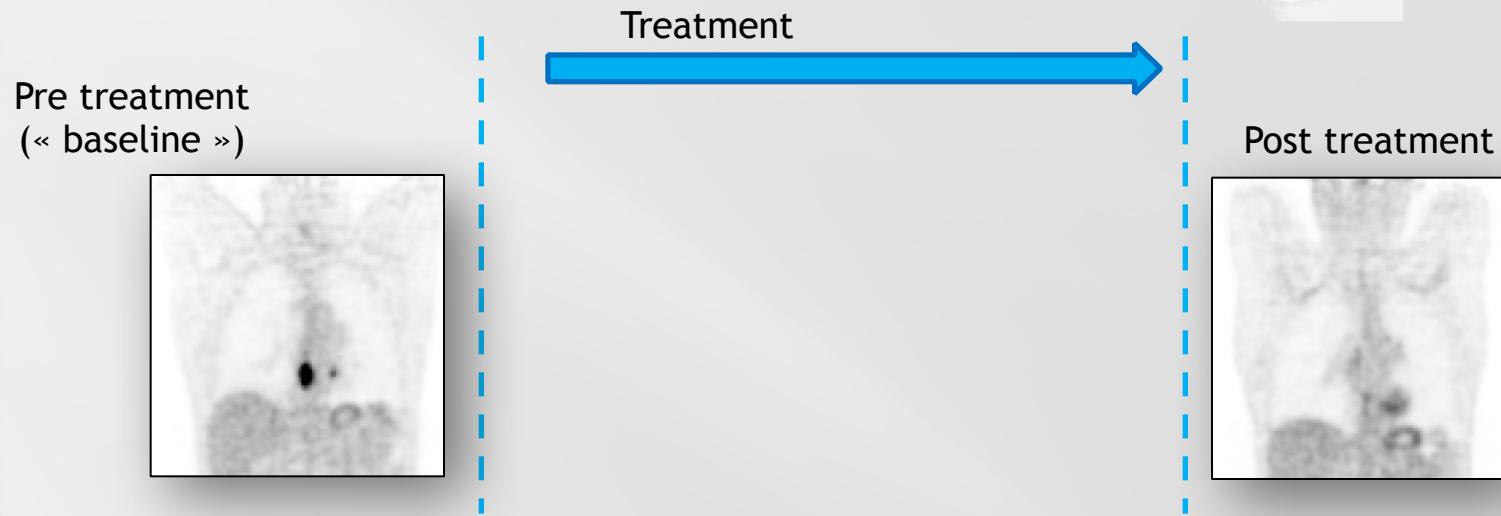


# PET segmentation

Reproducibility and robustness



## PET/CT: therapy response monitoring/prediction



# PET segmentation

Reproducibility and robustness



## PET/CT: therapy response monitoring/prediction

Pre treatment  
("baseline")

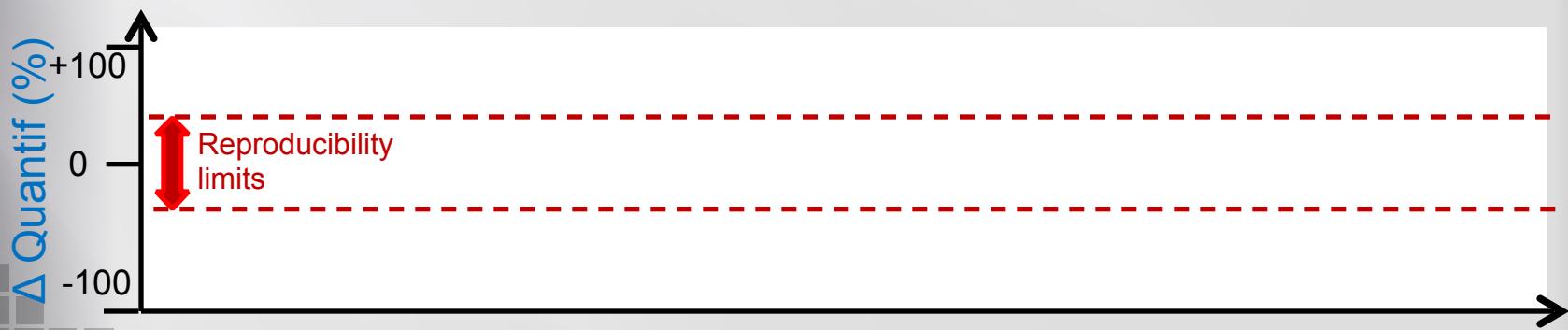


Treatment

During treatment  
(1, 2 weeks /cycles)



Post treatment



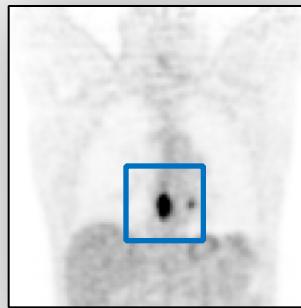
# PET segmentation

Reproducibility and robustness



## PET/CT: therapy response monitoring/prediction

Pre treatment  
("baseline")



Quantif 1

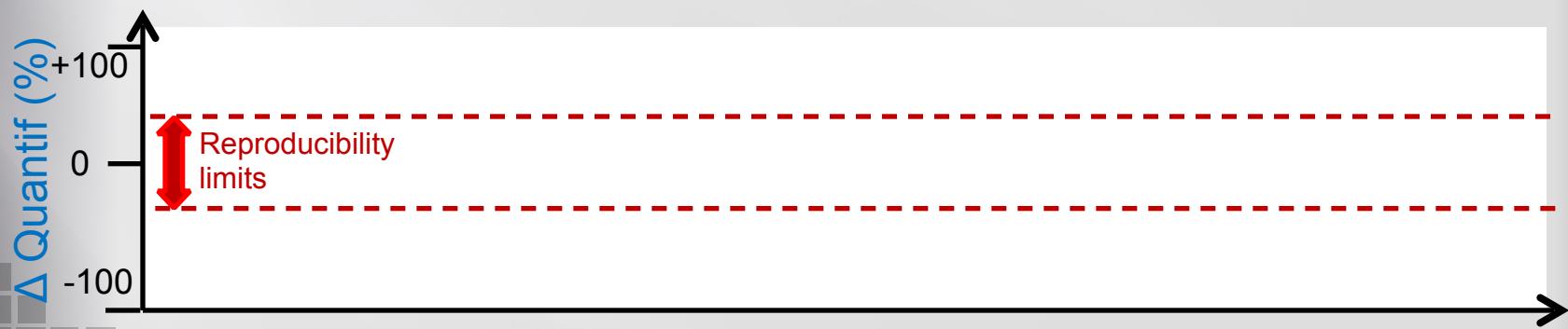
Treatment

During treatment  
(1, 2 weeks /cycles)



Quantif 2

Post treatment

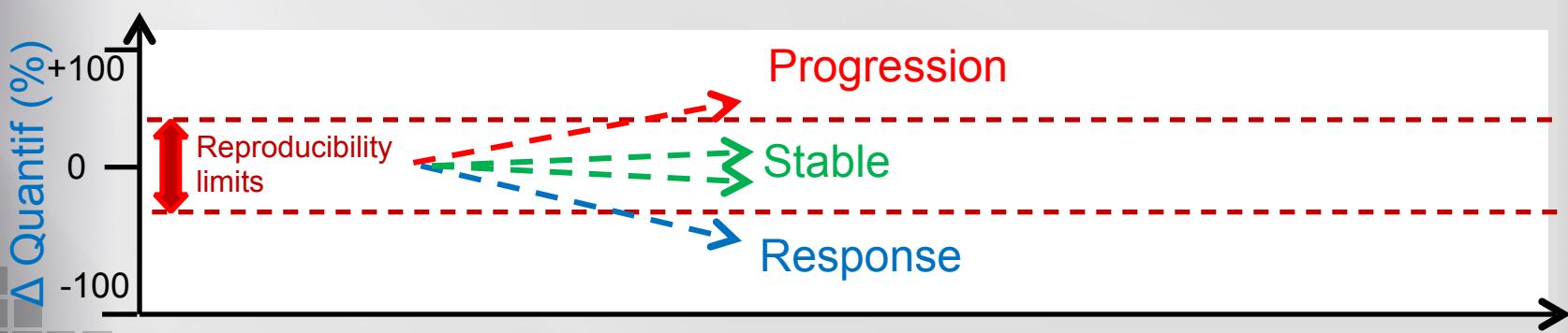
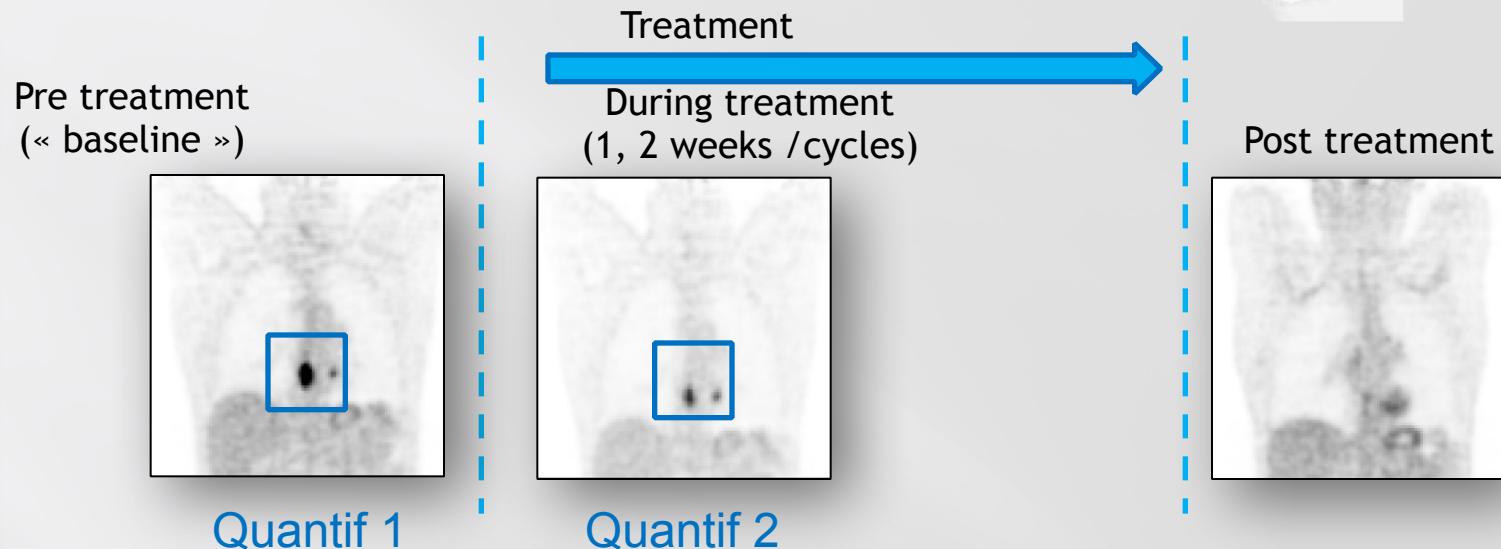


# PET segmentation

Reproducibility and robustness



## PET/CT: therapy response monitoring/prediction

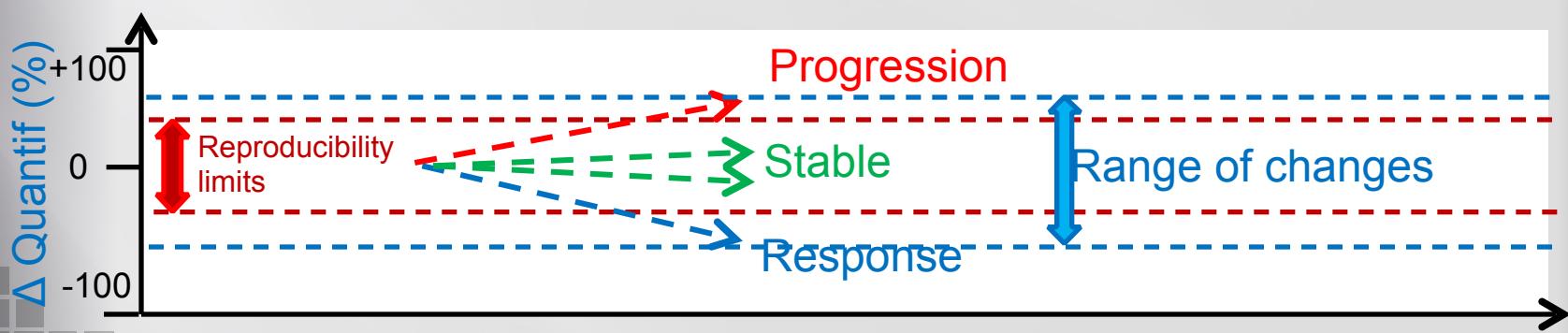
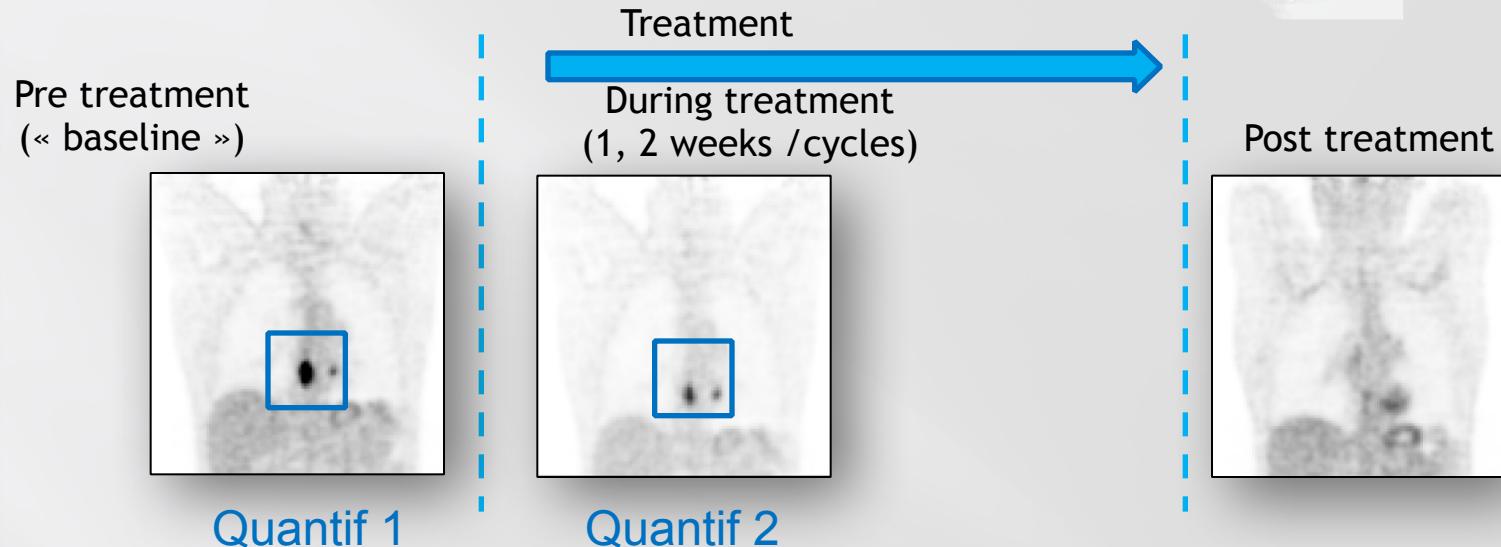


# PET segmentation

Reproducibility and robustness



## PET/CT: therapy response monitoring/prediction

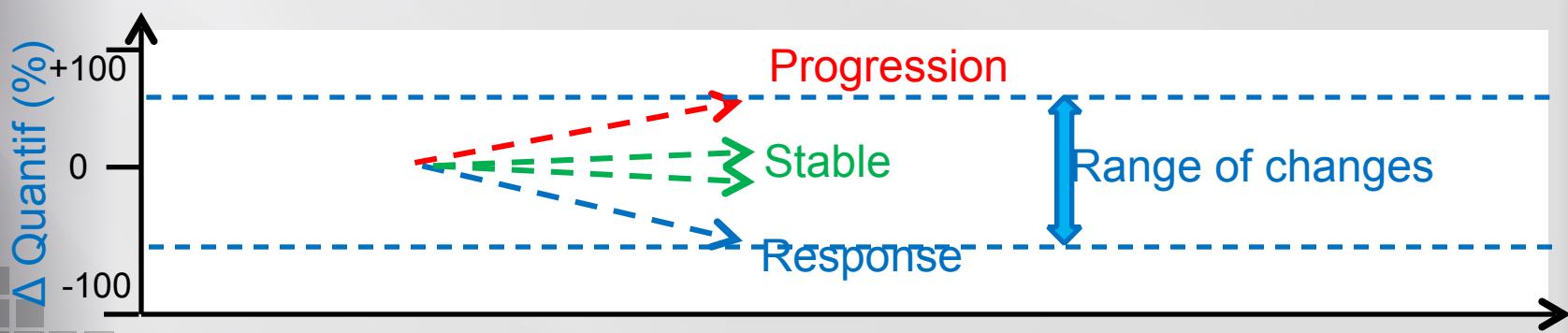
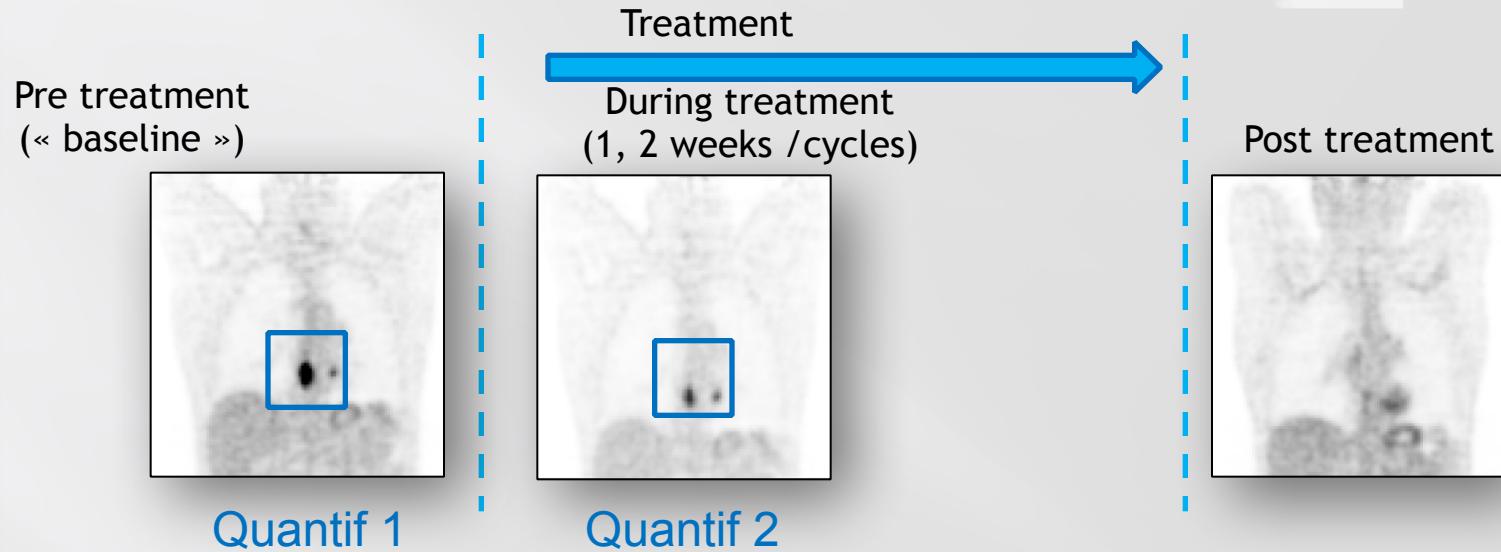


# PET segmentation

Reproducibility and robustness



## PET/CT: therapy response monitoring/prediction

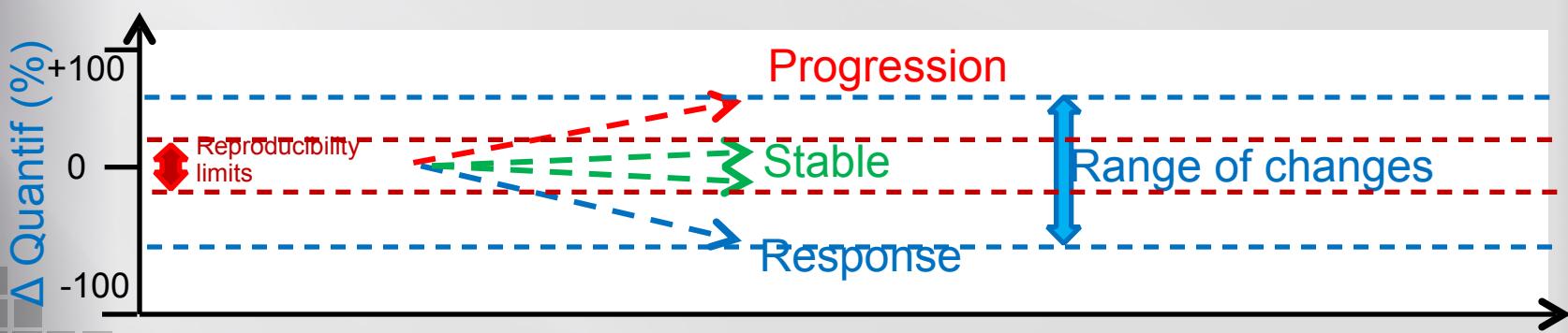
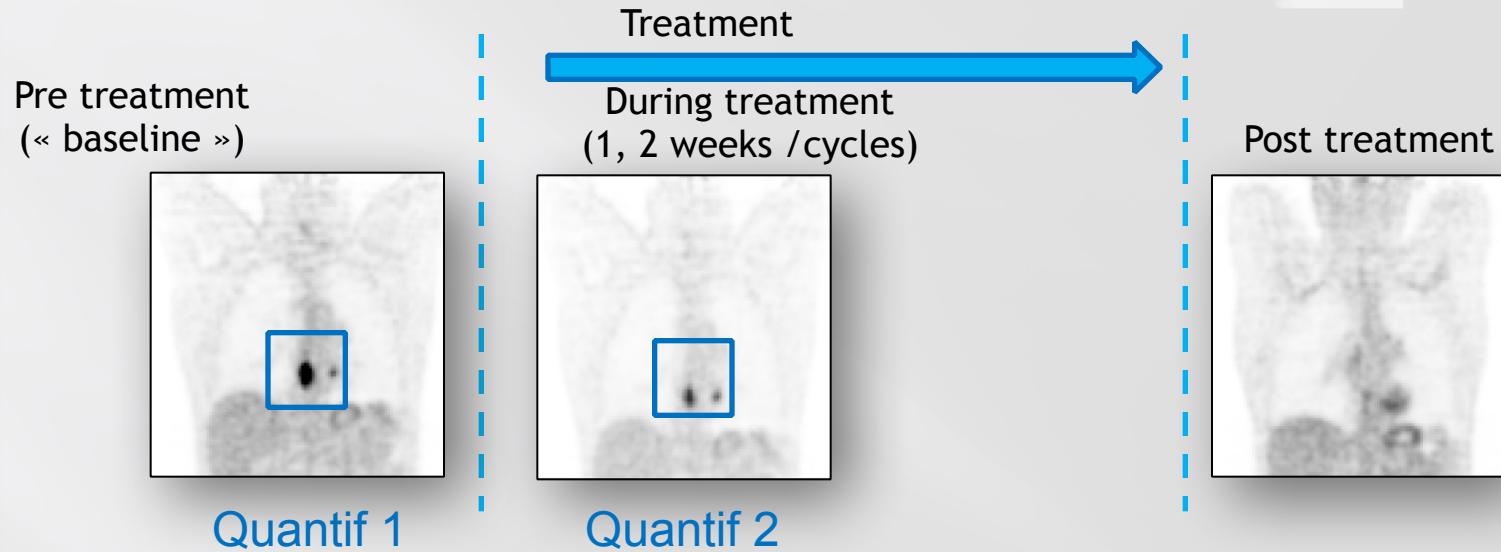


# PET segmentation

Reproducibility and robustness

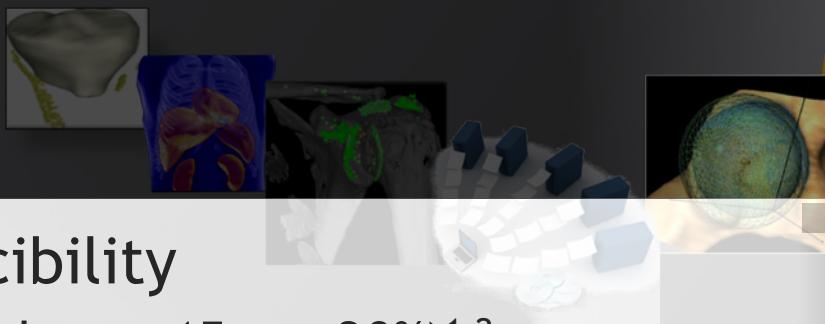


## PET/CT: therapy response monitoring/prediction



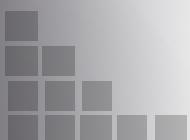
# PET segmentation

Reproducibility and robustness



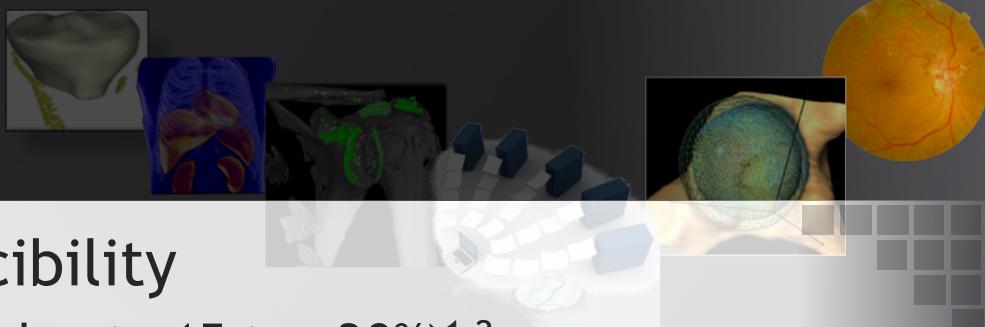
- Evaluation of reproducibility

- A few studies for SUVs (about  $\pm 15$  to  $\pm 30\%$ )<sup>1-2</sup>



# PET segmentation

## Reproducibility and robustness



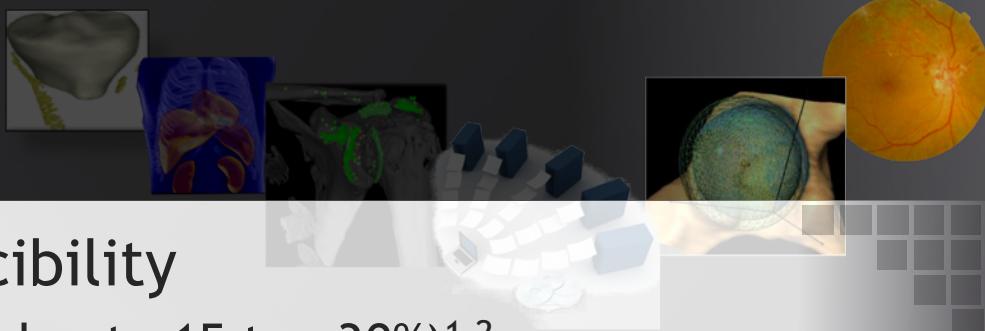
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1. Nahmias, *et al.* Reproducibility of standardized uptake value measurements determined by 18F-FDG PET in malignant tumors. *J Nucl Med.* 2008
2. Velasquez, *et al.* Repeatability of 18F-FDG PET in a multicenter phase I study of patients with advanced gastrointestinal malignancies. *J Nucl Med.* 2009

# PET segmentation

## Reproducibility and robustness



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### Reproducibility of $^{18}\text{F}$ -FDG and $3'$ -Deoxy- $3'$ - $^{18}\text{F}$ -Fluorothymidine PET Tumor Volume Measurements

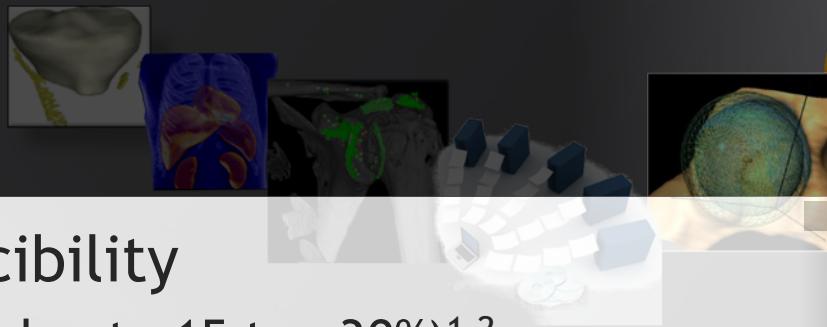
Journal of nuclear  
medicine

Mathieu Hatt<sup>1</sup>, Catherine Cheze-Le Rest<sup>1,2</sup>, Eric O. Aboagye<sup>3</sup>, Laura M. Kenny<sup>3</sup>, Lula Rosso<sup>3</sup>, Federico E. Turkheimer<sup>3</sup>, Nidal M. Albarghach<sup>1,4</sup>, Jean-Philippe Metges<sup>4</sup>, Olivier Pradier<sup>1,4</sup>, and Dimitris Visvikis<sup>1</sup>

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# PET segmentation

Reproducibility and robustness



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Journal of nuclear medicine

SUVs:  $\pm 30\%$

MATVs:  $\pm 20$ - $35\%$   
TLG:  $\pm 15$ - $40\%$

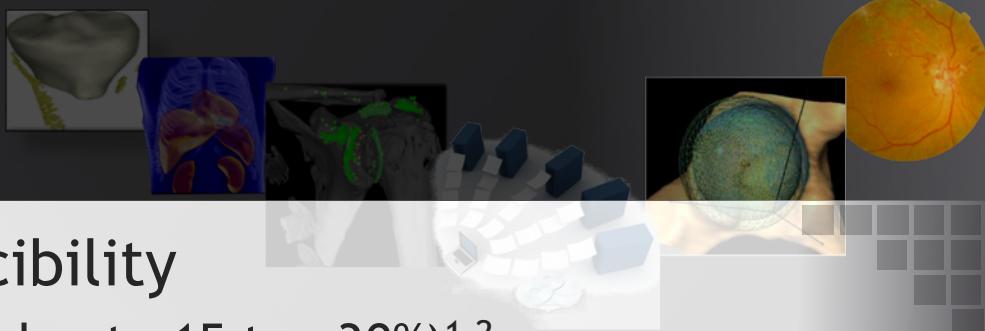
} FLAB

Mathieu Hatt<sup>1</sup>, Catherine Cheze-Le Rest<sup>1,2</sup>, Eric O. Aboagye<sup>3</sup>, Laura M. Kenny<sup>3</sup>, Lula Rosso<sup>3</sup>, Federico E. Turkheimer<sup>3</sup>, Nidal M. Albarghach<sup>1,4</sup>, Jean-Philippe Metges<sup>4</sup>, Olivier Pradier<sup>1,4</sup>, and Dimitris Visvikis<sup>1</sup>

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# PET segmentation

## Reproducibility and robustness



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Journal of nuclear medicine

Mathieu Hatt<sup>1</sup>, Catherine Cheze-Le Rest<sup>1,2</sup>, Eric O. Aboagye<sup>3</sup>, Laura M. Kenny<sup>3</sup>, Lula Rosso<sup>3</sup>, Federico E. Turkheimer<sup>3</sup>, Nidal M. Albarghach<sup>1,4</sup>, Jean-Philippe Metges<sup>4</sup>, Olivier Pradier<sup>1,4</sup>, and Dimitris Visvikis<sup>1</sup>

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} FLAB

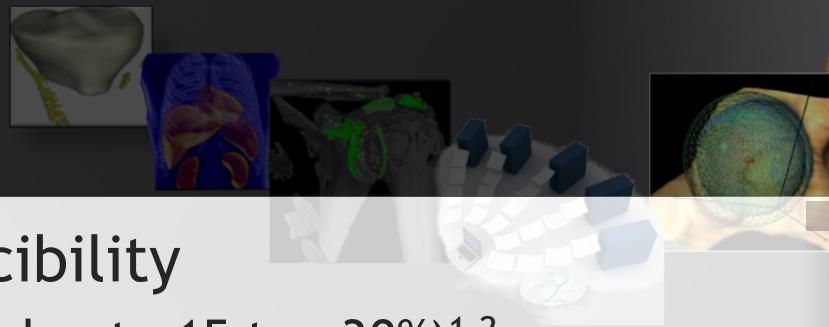
MATVs:  $\pm 50$ - $90\%$   
TLG:  $\pm 35$ - $120\%$

} Threshold based

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# PET segmentation

Reproducibility and robustness



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Journal of nuclear medicine

Mathieu Hatt<sup>1</sup>, Catherine Cheze-Le Rest<sup>1,2</sup>, Eric O. Aboagye<sup>3</sup>, Laura M. Kenny<sup>3</sup>, Lula Rosso<sup>3</sup>, Federico E. Turkheimer<sup>3</sup>, Nidal M. Albarghach<sup>1,4</sup>, Jean-Philippe Metges<sup>4</sup>, Olivier Pradier<sup>1,4</sup>, and Dimitris Visvikis<sup>1</sup>

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} FLAB

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} Threshold based

Journal of nuclear medicine

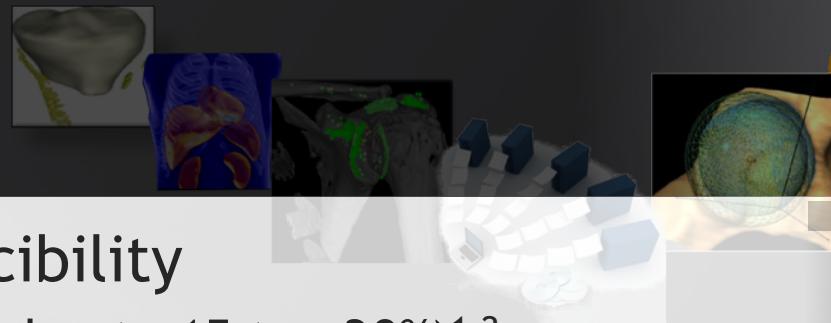
## Repeatability of Metabolically Active Volume Measurements with $^{18}\text{F}$ -FDG and $^{18}\text{F}$ -FLT PET in Non-Small Cell Lung Cancer

Virginie Frings<sup>1</sup>, Adrianus J. de Langen<sup>2</sup>, Egbert F. Smit<sup>2</sup>, Floris H.P. van Velden<sup>1</sup>, Otto S. Hoekstra<sup>1</sup>, Harm van Tinteren<sup>3</sup>, and Ronald Boellaard<sup>1</sup>

1. Nahmias, *et al.* Reproducibility of standardized uptake value measurements determined by  $^{18}\text{F}$ -FDG PET in malignant tumors. *J Nucl Med.* 2008
2. Velasquez, *et al.* Repeatability of  $^{18}\text{F}$ -FDG PET in a multicenter phase I study of patients with advanced gastrointestinal malignancies. *J Nucl Med.* 2009

# PET segmentation

Reproducibility and robustness



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Journal of nuclear medicine

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Journal of nuclear medicine

## Repeatability of Metabolically Active Volume Measurements with $^{18}\text{F}$ -FDG and $^{18}\text{F}$ -FLT PET in Non-Small Cell Lung Cancer

Virginie Frings<sup>1</sup>, Adrianus J. de Langen<sup>2</sup>, Egbert F. Smit<sup>2</sup>, Floris H.P. van Velden<sup>1</sup>, Otto S. Hoekstra<sup>1</sup>, Harm van Tinteren<sup>3</sup>, and Ronald Boellaard<sup>1</sup>

SUVs: N/A

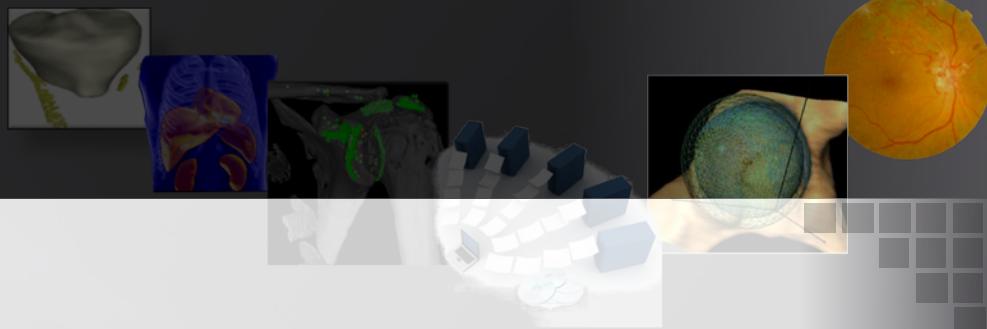
MATVs:  
 $\pm 45$ - $70\%$  (FDG)  
 $\pm 35$ - $95\%$  (FLT)

} Threshold based

- Nahmias, *et al.* Reproducibility of standardized uptake value measurements determined by  $^{18}\text{F}$ -FDG PET in malignant tumors. *J Nucl Med.* 2008
- Velasquez, *et al.* Repeatability of  $^{18}\text{F}$ -FDG PET in a multicenter phase I study of patients with advanced gastrointestinal malignancies. *J Nucl Med.* 2009

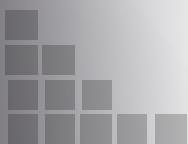
# PET segmentation

## Standardization



- Issues today:

- No consensus reached
- Limited implementation by vendors
- Need for standardization



# PET segmentation

## Standardization



- Issues today:
  - No consensus reached
  - Limited implementation by vendors
  - Need for standardization
- AAPM TG211:

### AAPM COMMITTEE TREE

Task Group No. 211 - Classification, Advantages and Limitations of the Auto-Segmentation Approaches for PET

[AAPM Members, Affiliates and Non-Member Affiliates](#) - Login for access to additional information

**Charge** 1. Provide a classification of the PET segmentation methods based on their assumptions, algorithmic approach, detail, complexity and goal. Provide information on the advantages, limitations and applicability of each class of methods based on the limitations imposed by their assumptions and on current literature. Consider the different applications of interest such as "dose painting" or simpler functional volume definition for radiotherapy treatment planning, or volume changes in treatment with PET. 2. Draft a list of minimum requirements which PET segmentation methods should satisfy, as well as acceptance and implementation procedures for these methods. 3. Propose a protocol for evaluation of current and future segmentation methods based on a general framework [39], which will be expanded and adapted to PET imaging [40].

Chair

Asen Kirov  
Task Group Chair

**Bylaws:** Not Referenced.      **Rules:** Not Referenced.

**Approved** Start: 10/13/2010  
**Date(s)** End: 12/31/2015

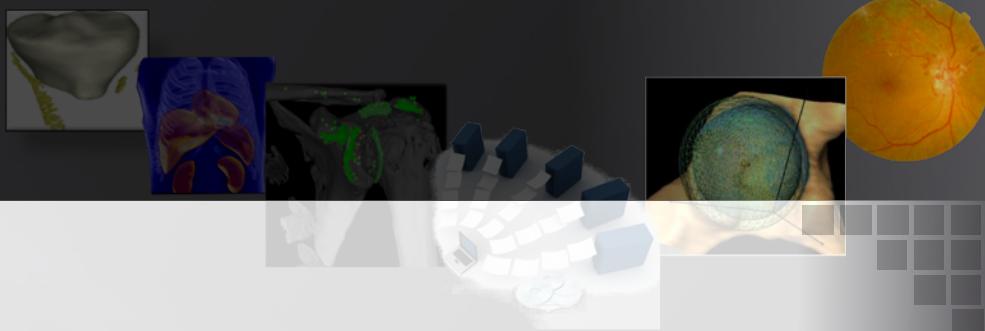
**Committee** Image Segmentation Algorithms, PET, Radiation Therapy, TG211  
**Keywords:**



AMERICAN ASSOCIATION  
of PHYSICISTS IN MEDICINE

# PET segmentation

## Standardization



- Produce a report on the state-of-the art<sup>1</sup>
- Propose and develop a benchmark standard<sup>1,2</sup>
- Provide the benchmark to the community<sup>2</sup>
- Carry out studies to validate methods

1. M. Hatt, *et al.* Report of AAPM TG211: Classification and evaluation strategies of auto-segmentation approaches for PET. *Med Phys* 2016 (in minor revision)
2. B. Berthon, *et al.* Part II: Design and Implementation of PETASSET: Benchmark Evaluation Software for PET Auto-Segmentation Methods. *Med Phys* 2016 (to appear)

# PET segmentation

## Standardization



### Datasets

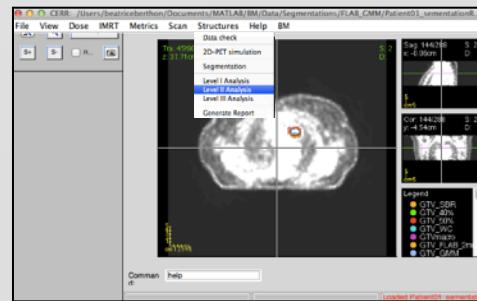
- Clinical images
- Physical phantoms
- Numerical phantoms (GATE)
- Synthetic simulations  
All with ground-truth or  
« surrogate » of truth

### Evaluation metrics

- Volumetric statistics
- Dice, Hausdorff, SE/PPV...
- DVH in RT planning
- Quantification of robustness

### User interface

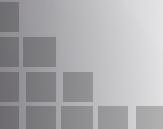
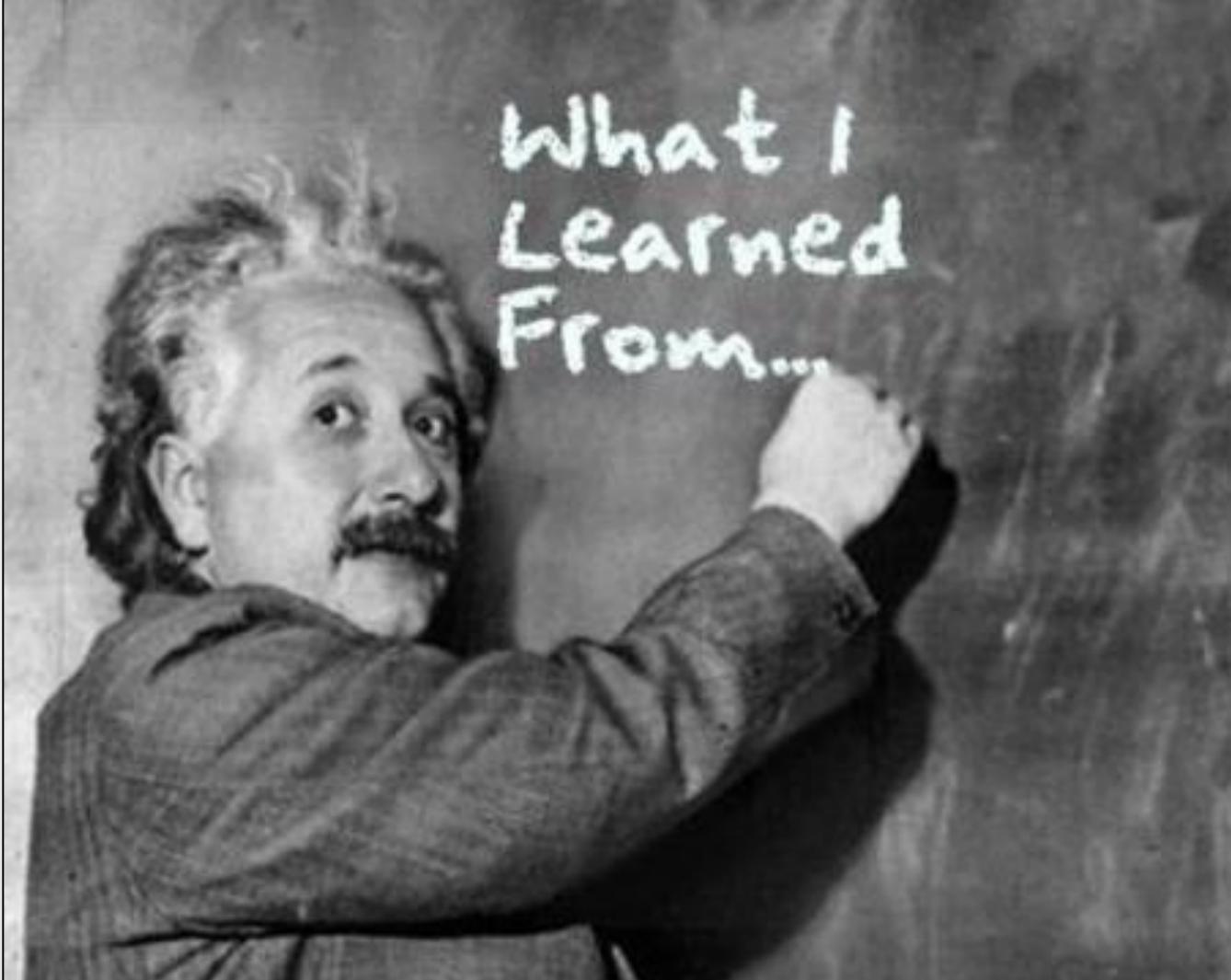
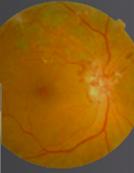
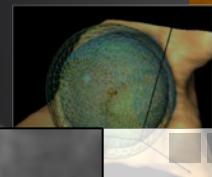
- Report
- Ranking



1. M. Hatt, *et al.* Report of AAPM TG211: Classification and evaluation strategies of auto-segmentation approaches for PET. *Med Phys* 2016 (in minor revision)
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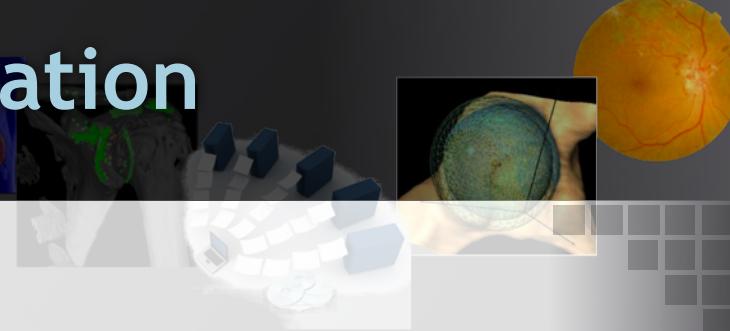
# PET and PET/CT segmentation

Take-home messages



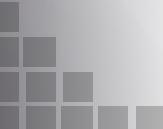
# PET and PET/CT segmentation

Take-home messages



## ▶ PET segmentation

- Forget about fixed thresholds!
- Be well aware of limitations of adaptive thresholding!
- Numerous advanced methods exist that can be used instead with acceptable implementation complexity
- Standardization and benchmarking will be available soon for the community
- User interaction remains important (e.g. for tumor detection and initial ROI definition, and for delineation check/validation)



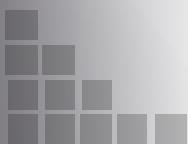
# PET and PET/CT segmentation

Take-home messages



## ▶ PET/CT/MRI segmentation

- Much more complex
  - To automate and implement
  - To evaluate and validate
- More highly dependent on the application
- Manual supervision will remain crucial



# Acknowledgments

LaTIM team

## Team leader



D. Visvikis

## Post-docs

F. Tixier J. Lapuyade



M. Majdoub



## Associated clinicians



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## Medical physicist



C. Cheze Le Rest

N. Boussion

## PhD students

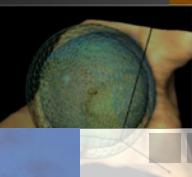
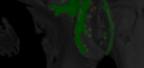
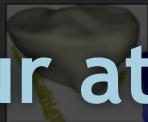


M-C. Desserroit



T. Upadhyaya

# Thank you for your attention



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