

Medical Imaging with High Performance Computing

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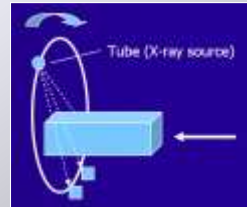
9th February 2009

Users Meeting in Athens, OTE Academy



X-Ray Transmission Computed Tomography

CT Technology



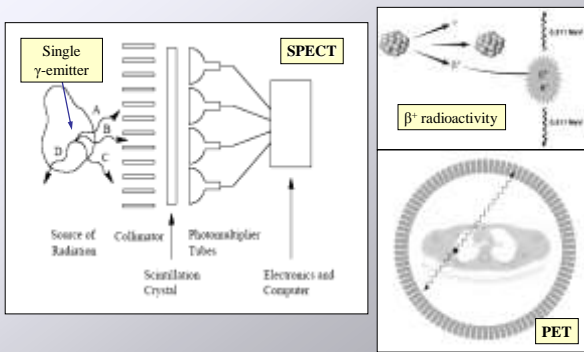
Classified by the Beam Geometry

- Parallel Beam
- Cone Beam
- Fan Beam

Classified by the X-Ray Locus

- Circle
- Spiral

Single Photon Emission Computed Tomography (SPECT) & Positron Emission Tomography (PET)



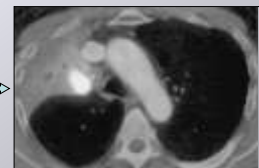
Multimodalities

CT Image (X-rays)



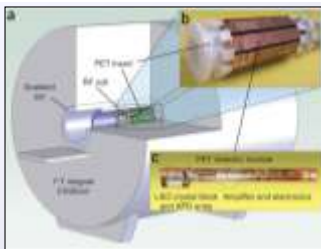
PET/CT fused images showing non-small cell lung carcinoma

PET Image



Antoch G. et al., Radiology 229 (2003) 526

Multimodalities



Simultaneous PET-MRI

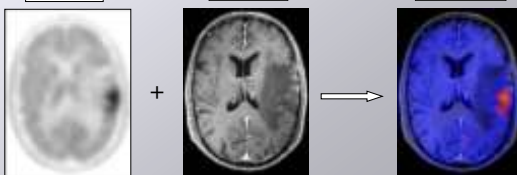
A new approach for functional and morphological imaging

Nature Medicine 14 (2008) 459-465

PET Image

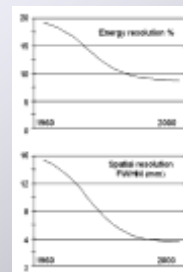
MRI Image

Fused Image



Small Animal Cameras

The small field, high-resolution γ -Camera system for SPECT at IASA.



RatCAP

A small, head-mounted PET tomograph for imaging the brain of an awake RAT

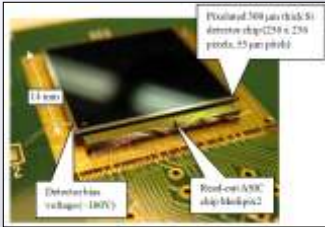
C. Woody et al., Brookhaven National Laboratory

N. Giokaris et al., Nucl. Instrum. & Methods A 497 (2003) 141

Small Animal Cameras

MEDIPIX2

Semiconductor single-particle-counting pixel detector for X- and γ-radiation imaging

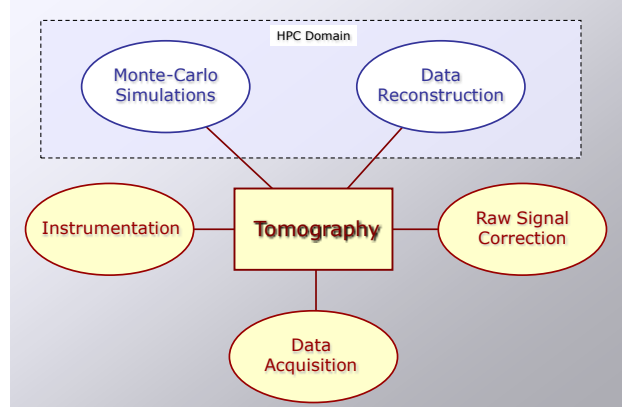


CERN Medipix2 Collaboration

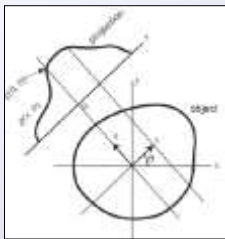
Ground beetle X-ray transmission image



COMPUTED TOMOGRAPHY



Tomographic Image Reconstruction



$$g(\theta, s) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(x \cos \theta - y \sin \theta, s \sin \theta + x \cos \theta) dx$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} s \\ \theta \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \cos \theta & \sin \theta \\ -\sin \theta & \cos \theta \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \cos \theta & -\sin \theta \\ \sin \theta & \cos \theta \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \end{bmatrix}$$

Radon Transform

$$f(x, y) = \int_0^{2\pi} g(\theta, s) d\theta$$

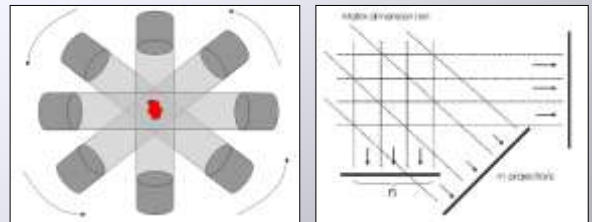
J. Radon (1917)

Über die Bestimmung von Funktionen durch ihre Integralwerte längs gewisser Mannigfaltigkeiten.

Berichte Sächsischer Akademie der Wissenschaften, Math. Phys. Klass. v69. 262-277

Tomographic Image Reconstruction

Tomographic Reconstruction from Planar Images



Problem Definition

Reconstruct the $n \times n$ matrix from the $m \times n$ projections

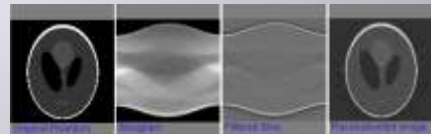
Tomographic Image Reconstruction

Reconstruction Algorithms

- Analytic Algorithms
 - Fourier Inversion, Filtered Back Projection
- Iterative Algorithms
 - Algebraic Reconstruction Technique (ART)
 - Maximum Likelihood – Expectation Maximization (MLEM)
- Artificial Neural Networks (ANN)

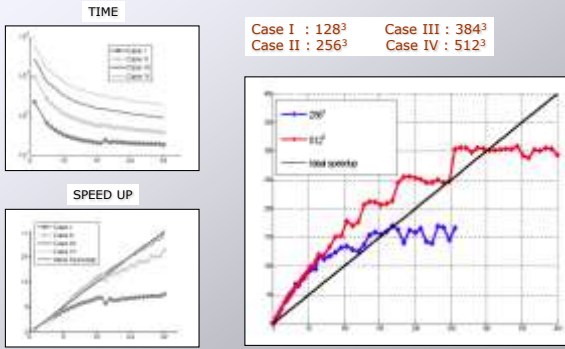
Tomographic Image Reconstruction

Parallel Implementation of the Filtered Back Projection Algorithm



Tomographic Image Reconstruction

Reconstruction of a 3D Shepp-Logan Phantom



Tomographic Image Reconstruction

Iterative Algorithms

Reconstruction of the $N \times N$ Matrix from M Projections

Algebraic Reconstruction Technique (ART)

$$x_j^{next} = x_j^{old} + P_{i,j} \frac{R_i - R_i^{old}}{N_i}$$

$M \times N$ steps per Iteration

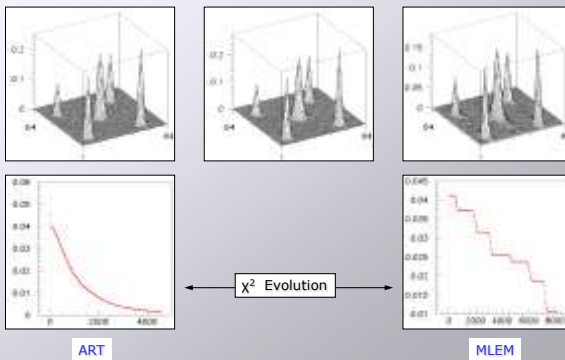
Maximum Likelihood - Expectation Maximization (MLEM)

$$x_j^{next} = x_j^{old} \frac{\sum_i P_{i,j} \frac{R_i}{\sum_k P_{i,k} x_k}}{\sum_i P_{i,j}}$$

$N \times N$ steps per Iteration

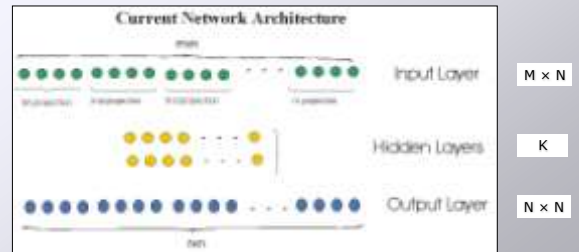
Tomographic Image Reconstruction

Iterative Algorithms



Tomographic Image Reconstruction

Usage of Artificial Neural Network (ANN) Techniques



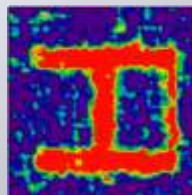
Total Number of Synapses

- > No hidden layer $(N \times N) \cdot (M \times N) \sim N^3$
- > One hidden layer $(M \times N \times k) + (k \times N \times N) \sim N^2$

Tomographic Image Reconstruction

Training of the Neural Network

Picture Size	64 \diamond 64
Num of Projections	18
INPUT nodes	18 \diamond 64
OUTPUT nodes	64 \diamond 64
TOTAL synapses	18 \diamond 64 ³
Training Time per cycle (P4-3GHz)	30min



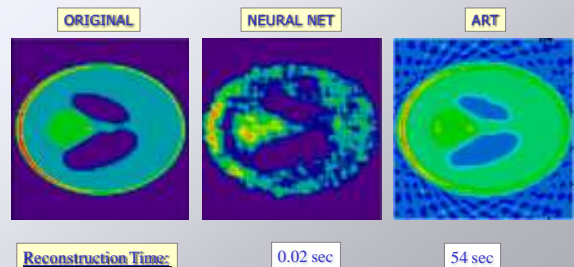
Cycle 378

Drawback: Large Training Time

Advantage: Direct Response in any Input Signal after Training

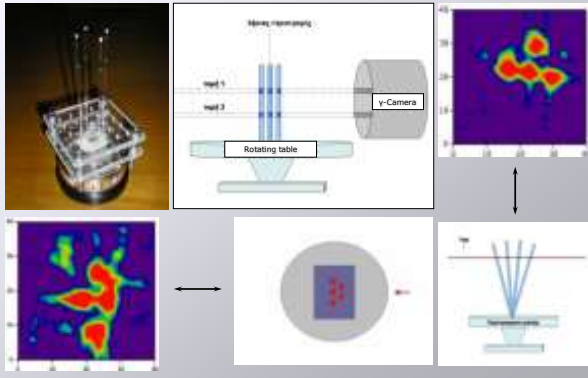
Tomographic Image Reconstruction

Simulation Results: Reconstruction of the Shepp Logan phantom



Tomographic Image Reconstruction

ANN Test Results with Phantoms (Capillaries filled with ^{99m}Tc)



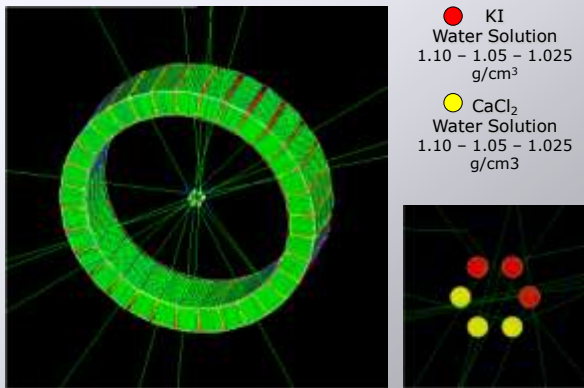
Monte Carlo: GEANT4/GATE Simulation Tools

Geant4 is a toolkit for the simulation of the passage of particles through matter. Its areas of application include high energy, nuclear and accelerator physics, as well as studies in medical and space science.

GATE (Geant4 Application for Emission Tomography) incorporates the Geant4 libraries in a modular, versatile, and scripted simulation toolkit which is adapted to the field of nuclear medicine. In addition, GATE allows the accurate description of time-dependent phenomena such as source or detector movement and source decay kinetics.

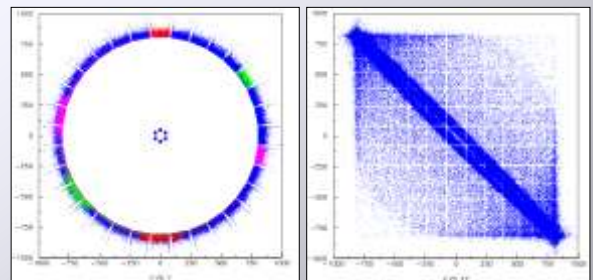


Monte Carlo: GEANT4/GATE PET Simulation



Monte Carlo: GEANT4/GATE PET Simulation

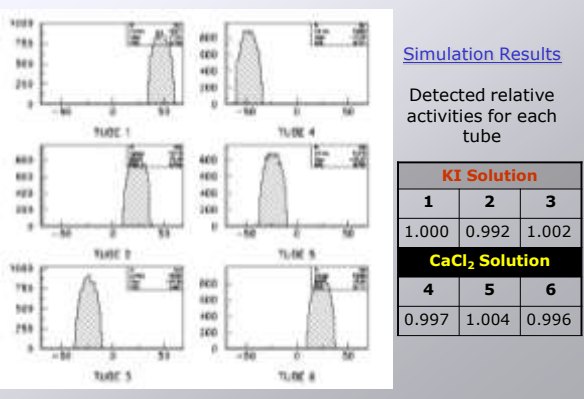
Position Reconstruction Results



Detected $\gamma_1 - \gamma_2$ Photon Correlations

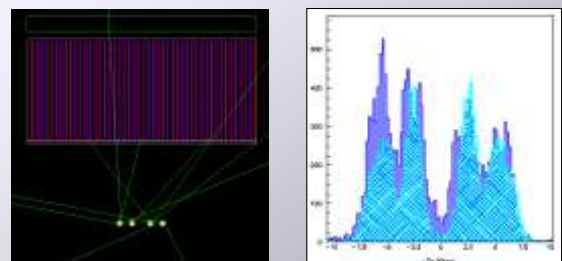
G. Hantzopoulos, Diploma Thesis, UoA (2008)

Monte Carlo: GEANT4/GATE PET Simulation



Monte Carlo: GEANT4/GATE SPECT Simulation

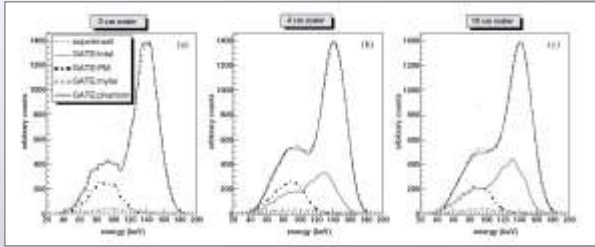
Focus effects of the collimator – Comparison with experimental results



J. Kyriakidou and M. Mikeli, Diploma Theses, UoA (2007)

Monte Carlo: GEANT4/GATE SPECT Simulation

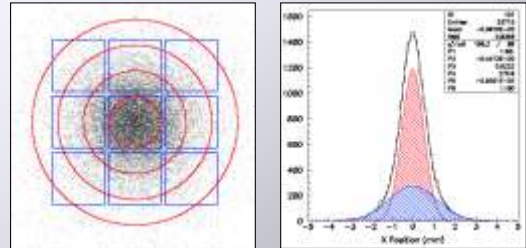
- Energy spectra obtained for a ^{99m}Tc point source under water.
- Comparison with experimental results taken with the IASA γ -Camera for different water depths.



D. Lazaro et al., Phys. Med. Biol. 49 (2003) 271

Monte Carlo: Optical Simulation

Pixelated Scintillation Crystal CsI(Tl)



Study of the photon transport in the optical media with the software package **DETECT2000**

M. Mikeli et al., IEEE NSS-MIC (2008) 4736-4741

Monte Carlo: Voxelized Phantoms

Attenuation Effects

$$I = I_0 e^{-\int u(x) dx}$$

Attenuation Coefficient $u(x)$ depends on material composition.



Analytically defined thorax phantom and transverse image of its voxelized (256^3) counterpart.

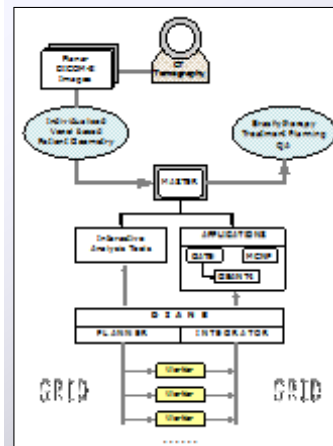
Voxelized phantoms can accurately model detailed human shapes based on segmented CT or MRI images.

J. Peter, IEEE TMI 19 (2000) 8

Monte-Carlo Calculations for Brachytherapy Treatment

Brachytherapy treatment planning based on accurate dosimetric studies taking in account:

- Individualized Voxel based Patient Geometry
- Correlation between CT numbers and tissue parameters
- Tissue inhomogeneities
- Scatter corrections, selective radiation absorption



The HG-02 IASA GRID Cluster

IASA Grid Operational Center #1



Partner of the GRNET

64 HP servers with dual Intel Xeon (3.4 GHz)

The HG-02-IASA Storage Array



Concluding Remarks

High Performance Computing environment plays an important role for Medical Image Applications:

Tomographic Image Reconstruction

- Parallelization of Filtered Back Projection Algorithms
- Acceleration of Iterative Processes
- ANN Applications

Monte Carlo Simulation

- Emission Tomography (SPECT, PET)
- Optical Transport Processes
- Radiotherapy Treatment

Integrative approach to high-performance biomedical problem solving environments on the Grid.