Motion Compensation (MoCo) for Simultaneous PET/MR Based on Strongly Undersampled Radial MR Data – A Simulation Study

Christopher M Rank¹, Thorsten Heußer¹, Marcus Brehm¹, Thomas Beyer², and Marc Kachelrieß¹

 ¹ German Cancer Research Center (DKFZ), Heidelberg, Germany
 ² Center for Medical Physics and Biomedical Engineering, Medical University Vienna, Vienna, Austria



Introduction

- One major obstacle in PET image reconstruction is patient motion (respiratory, cardiac, involuntary motion)
- Motion causes image blurring and an underestimation of the reconstructed activity



Gating

- divide (cyclic) motion into certain gates and reconstruct images from the data of each individual gate separately
- trade-off between temporal resolution and an appropriate SNR and CNR of the reconstructed images
- Recent approaches: Motion Compensation (MoCo)^{1,2}
 - use MR information to estimate 4D motion vector fields (MVFs)
 - 4D MoCo PET reconstruction from complete rawdata

[1] Würslin et al. Respiratory motion correction in oncologic PET using T1-weighted MR imaging on a simultaneous whole-body PET/MR system. *J. Nucl. Med.* 2013. [2] Grimm et al. Self-gated MRI motion modeling for respiratory motion compensation in integrated PET/MRI. *Med. Image Anal.* 2015.



Aim of Work

- Develop a framework for respiratory motion compensation of PET images
- Use information from a strongly undersampled radial MR sequence that
 - runs in parallel with the PET acquisition
 - requires less than 1 min of the acquisition time per bed position
 - can be interlaced with clinical MR sequences







MR Simulation of Undersampled Data

3D encoded radial stack-of-stars sequence



- 160 radial spokes per slice
- 38 s for 80 slices (*TR* = 3 ms)
- data sorted retrospectively into 20 overlapping motion phases (10% width)
- 4D gated gridding reconstruction



4D MR volume



application of artificially generated DVFs

MR

Artifact Model-Based Estimation of MVFs²



[1] Brehm et al. Self-adapting cyclic registration for motion-compensated cone-beam CT in image-guided radiation therapy. *Med. Phys.* 2012. [2] Brehm et al. Artifact-resistant motion estimation with a patient-specific artifact model for motion-compensated cone-beam CT. *Med. Phys.* 2013.

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MR Results of Motion Compensation

4D gated

4D acMoCo

4D ground truth



< 1 min/bed

3D

< 1 min/bed used for estimation of MVFs < 1 min/bed



PET Simulation and Reconstruction

4D activity distribution

- soft tissue (A = 5-6 kBq/mL)
- lungs (A = 1 kBq/mL)
- 8 artificial hot lesions
 (A = 30 kBq/mL)

Rawdata simulation

- forward project activity distribution
- add Poisson noise
- geometry of Siemens Biograph mMR

Iterative reconstruction

- 3D OSEM using 2 iterations and 21 subsets
- incorporation of MVFs into system matrix for 4D MoCo reconstruction

4D PET activity distribution









PET Results of Motion Compensation

4D acMoCo 4D gated 4D ref gated **3D MVFs from MR** reference [kBq/mL] [kBq/mL] [kBq/mL] [kBq/mL] - 35.0 35.0 - 35.0 F 35.0 0.0 0.0 10 min/bed 10 min/bed 10 min/bed 100 min/bed same statistics as 3D due to

dkfz.

ten-fold measurement time

PET Results of Motion Compensation

3D 4D gated

4D acMoCo MVFs from MR 4D ref gated reference







- PET respiratory MoCo based on strongly undersampled radial MR data acquired in less than 1 min
- 3D encoded radial stack-of-stars MR sampling scheme
- Artifact model-based registration for estimation of MVFs
- 4D MoCo PET reconstruction
- Significant improvement of PET image quality in terms of temporal resolution or noise level

Outlook: verification with measured patient data



Thank You!

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Conference Chair Marc Kachelrieß, German Cancer Research Center (DKFZ), Heidelberg, Germany

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