Applications of Alto to CT Image Formation

Marc Kachelrieß

German Cancer Research Center (DKFZ)

Heidelberg, Germany

www.dkfz.de/ct



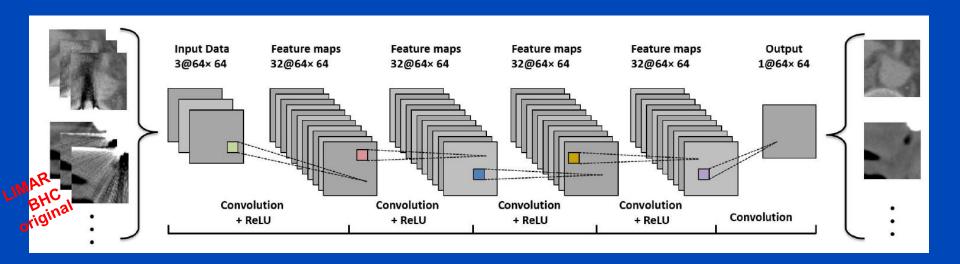
Part 1:

Making up Data



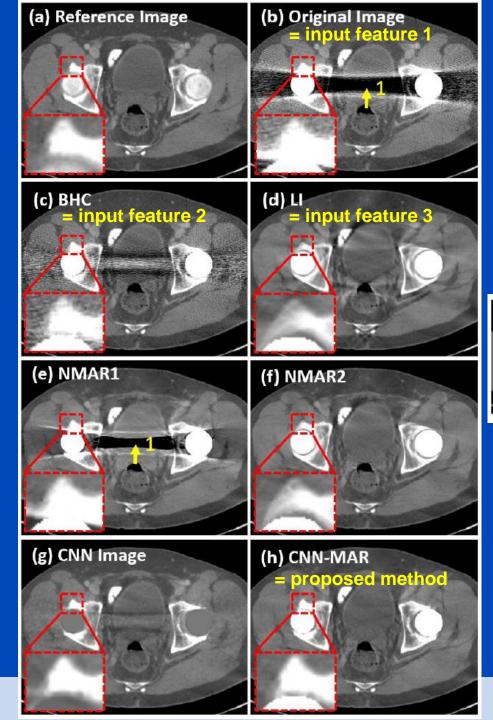
MAR Example

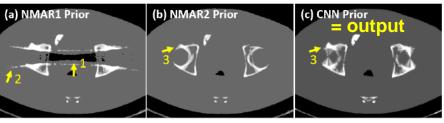
 Deep CNN-driven patch-based combination of the advantages of several MAR methods trained on simulated artifacts



- followed by segmentation into tissue classes
- followed by forward projection of the CNN prior and replacement of metal areas of the original sinogram
- followed by reconstruction

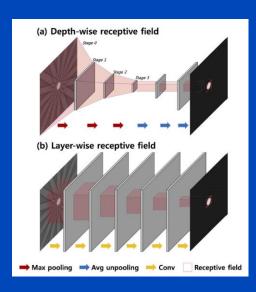


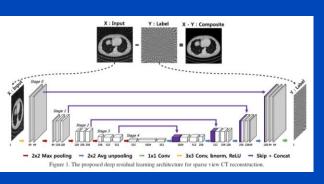


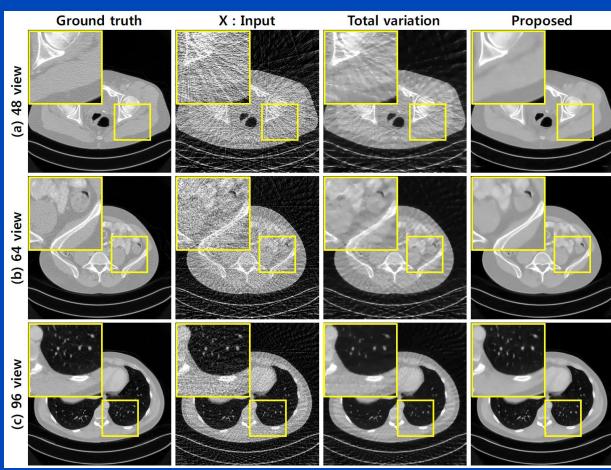




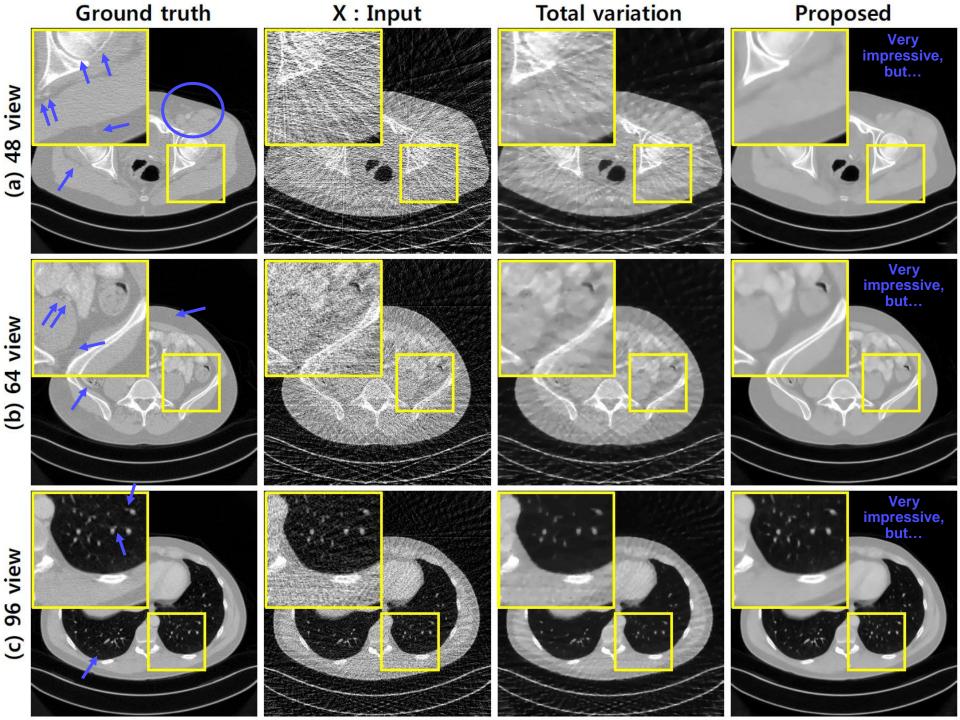
Sparse View Restoration Example











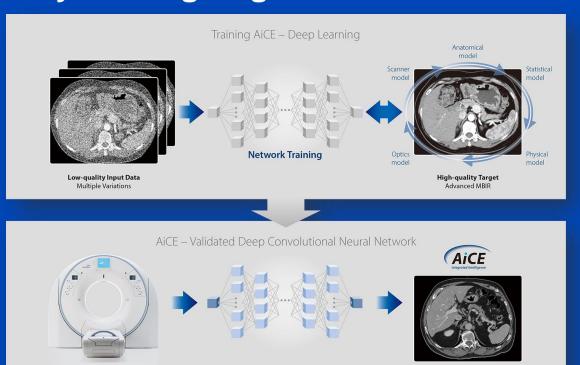
Part 2:

Noise Reduction



Canon's AiCE

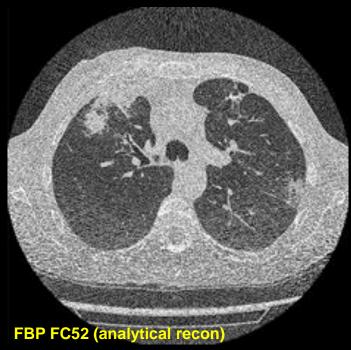
- Advanced intelligent Clear-IQ Engine (AiCE)
- Trained to restore low-dose CT data to match the properties of FIRST, the model-based IR of Canon.
- FIRST is applied to high-dose CT images to obtain a high fidelity training target

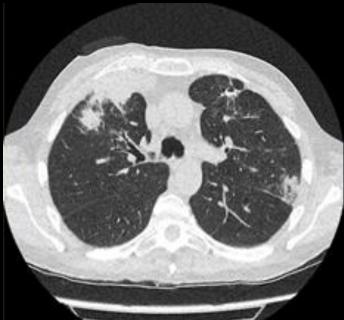




Data Acquisition

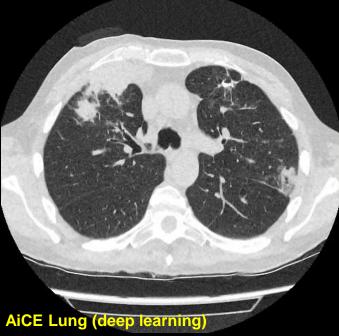
U = 100 kV CTDI = 0.6 mGy DLP = 24.7 mGy⋅cm D_{eff} = 0.35 mSv



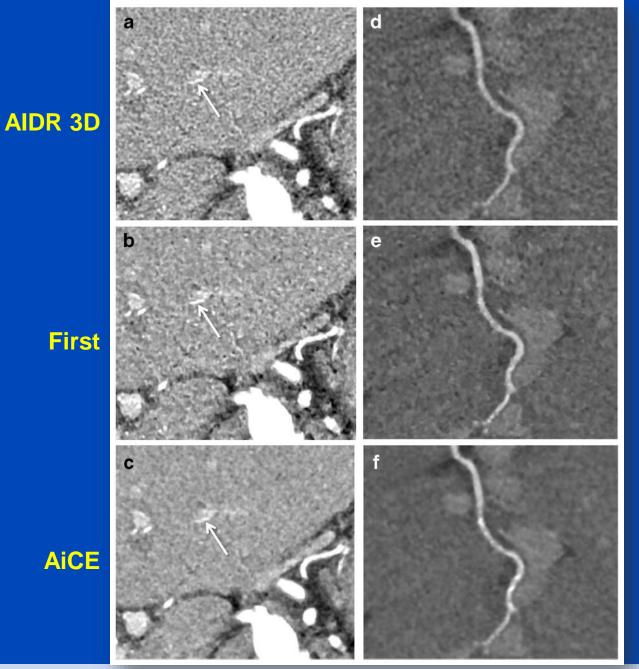


AIDR3De FC52 (image-based iterative)



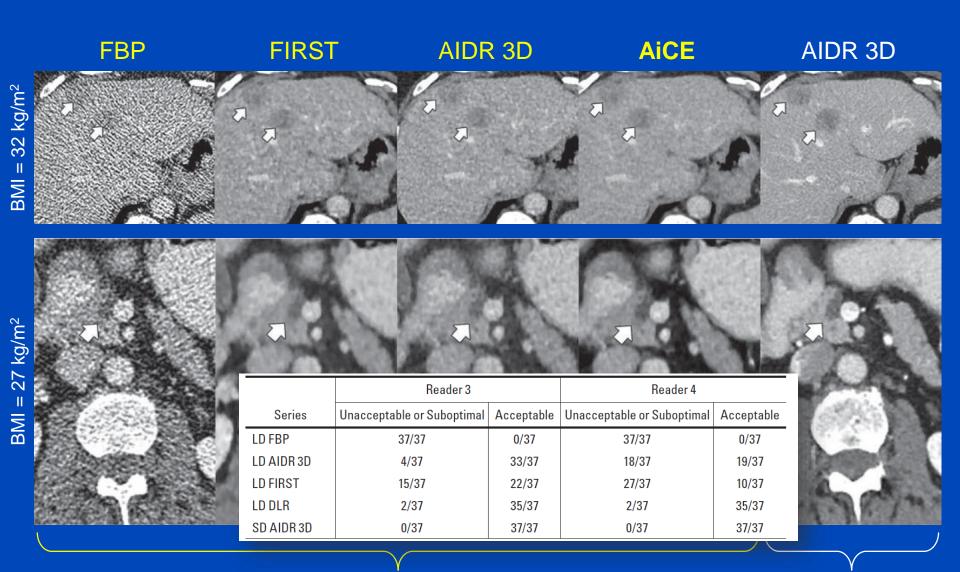


Courtesy of Radboudumc, the Netherlands



Akagi et al., Deep learning reconstruction improves image quality of abdominal ultra-high-resolution CT, Eur. Radiol. 2019





Low Dose CT 2 mGy CTDI (top) 3 mGy CTDI (bottom) Standard Dose CT 19 mGy CTDI (top) 18 mGy CTDI (bottom)



Noise Removal Example 7 GE's True Fidelity

- Based on a deep CNN
- Trained to restore low-dose CT data to match the properties of Veo, the model-based IR of GE.
- No information can be obtained in how the training is conducted for the product implementation.

2.5D DEEP LEARNING FOR CT IMAGE RECONSTRUCTION USING A MULTI-GPU IMPLEMENTATION

Amirkoushyar Ziabari*, Dong Hye Ye * †, Somesh Srivastava[‡], Ken D. Sauer [⊕]

Jean-Baptiste Thibault [‡], Charles A. Bouman*

* Electrical and Computer Engineering at Purdue University

† Electrical and Computer Engineering at Marquett University

‡ GE Healthcare

[®] Electrical Engineering at University of Notre Dame

ABSTRACT

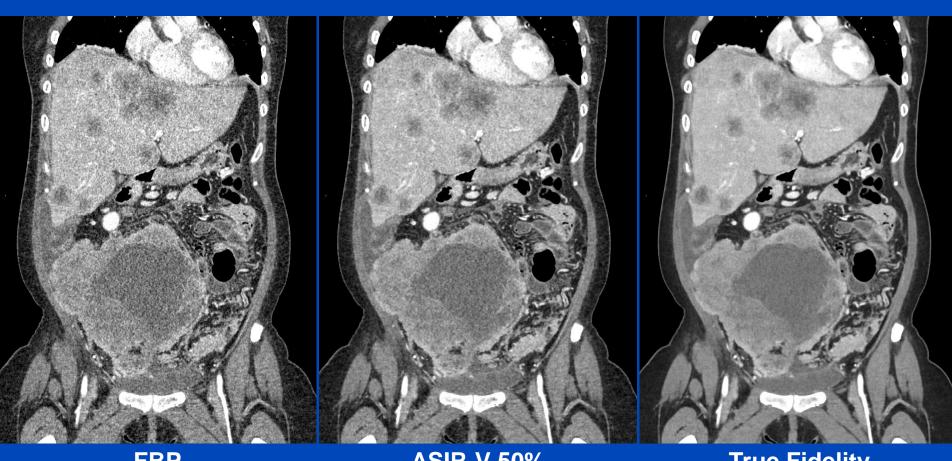
While Model Based Iterative Reconstruction (MBIR) of CT scans has been shown to have better image quality than Filtered Back Projection (FBP), its use has been limited by its high computational cost. More recently, deep convolutional neural networks (CNN) have shown great promise in both denoising and reconstruction applications. In this research, we propose a fast reconstruction algorithm, which we call Deep

streaking artifacts caused by sparse projection views in CT images [8]. More recently, Ye, et al. [9] developed method for incorporating CNN denoisers into MBIR reconstruction as advanced prior models using the Plug-and-Play framework [10, 11].

In this paper, we propose a fast reconstruction algorithm, which we call Deep Learning MBIR (DL-MBIR), for approximately achieving the improved quality of MBIR using a deep residual neural network. The DL-MBIR method is trained to

ss.IV] 20 Dec 2018





True Fidelity ASIR V 50% FBP

Courtesy of GE Healthcare

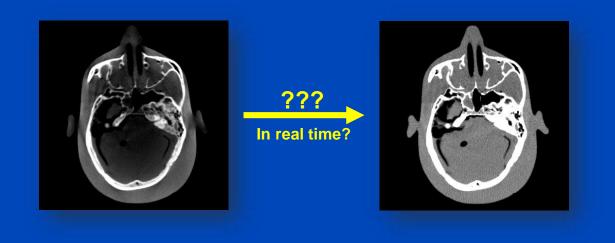


Part 3:

Fast Physics



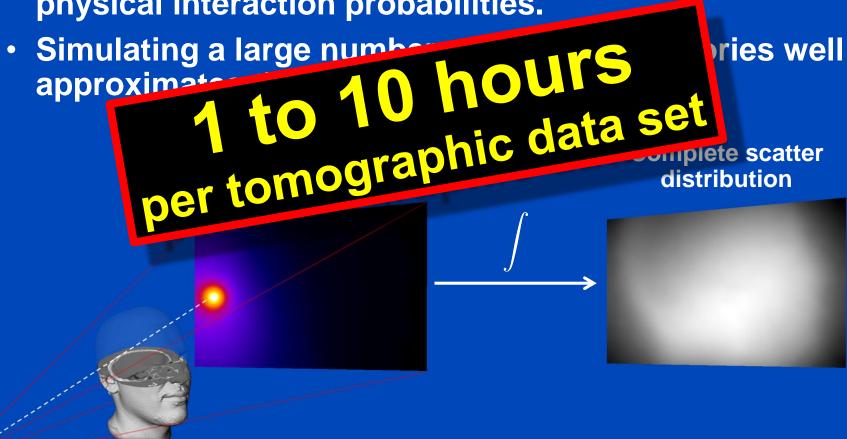
Deep Scatter Estimation





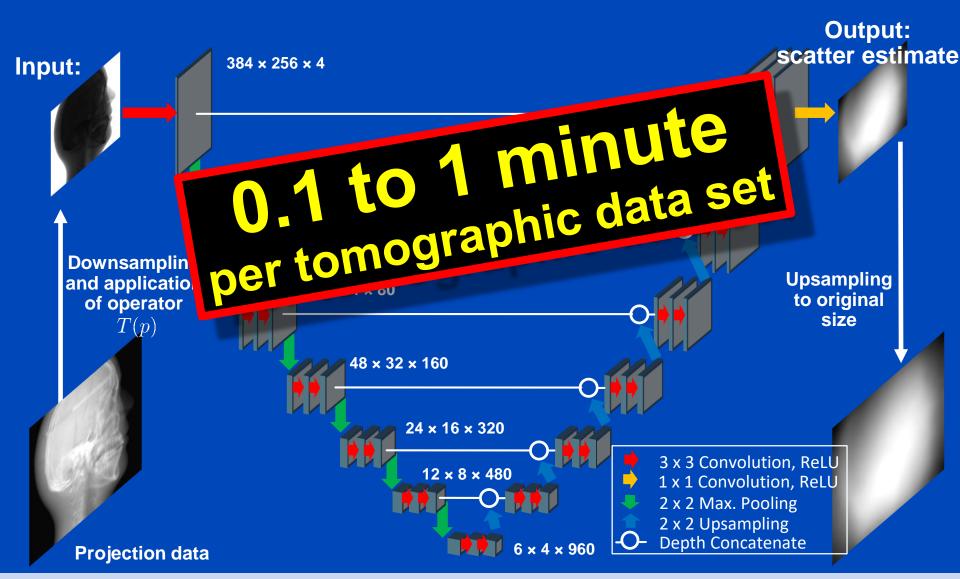
Monte Carlo Scatter Estimation

Simulation of photon trajectories according to physical interaction probabilities.

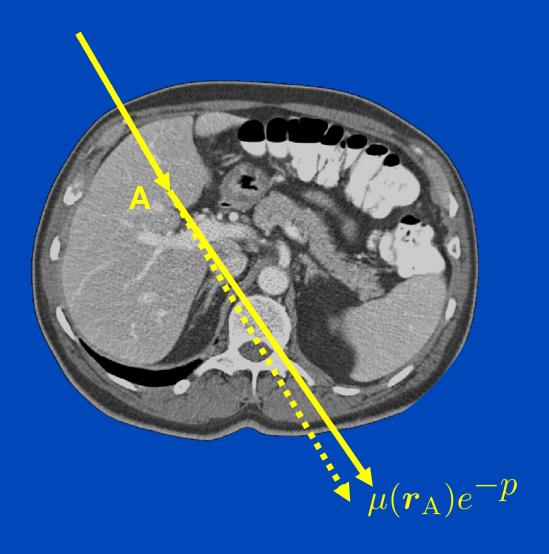


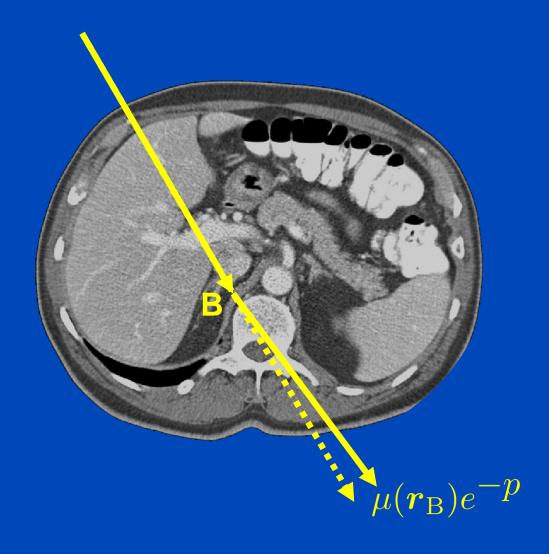
Deep Scatter Estimation

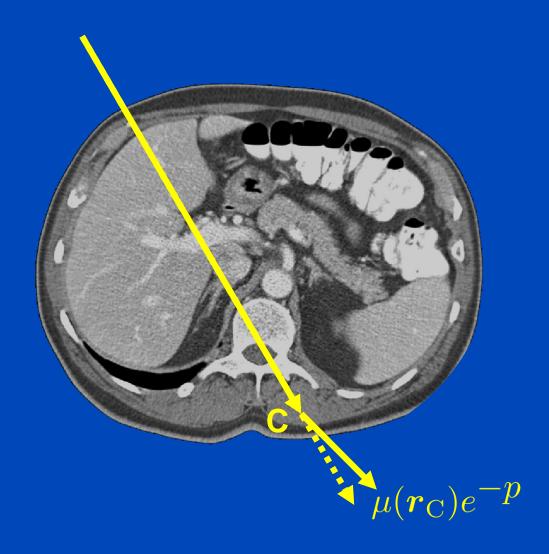
Network architecture & scatter estimation framework









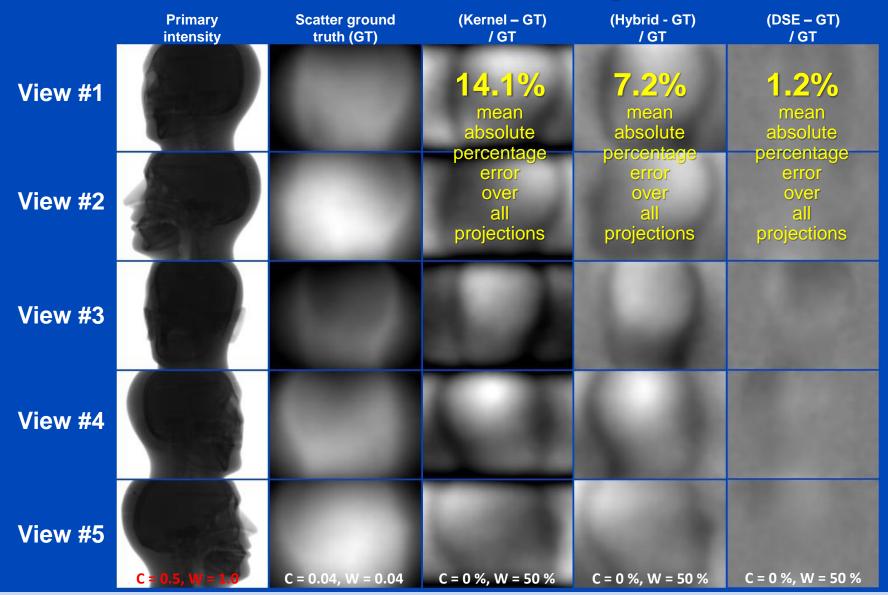




 $(\mu(\mathbf{r}_{\mathrm{A}}) + \mu(\mathbf{r}_{\mathrm{B}}) + \mu(\mathbf{r}_{\mathrm{C}}))e^{-p} = pe^{-p}$

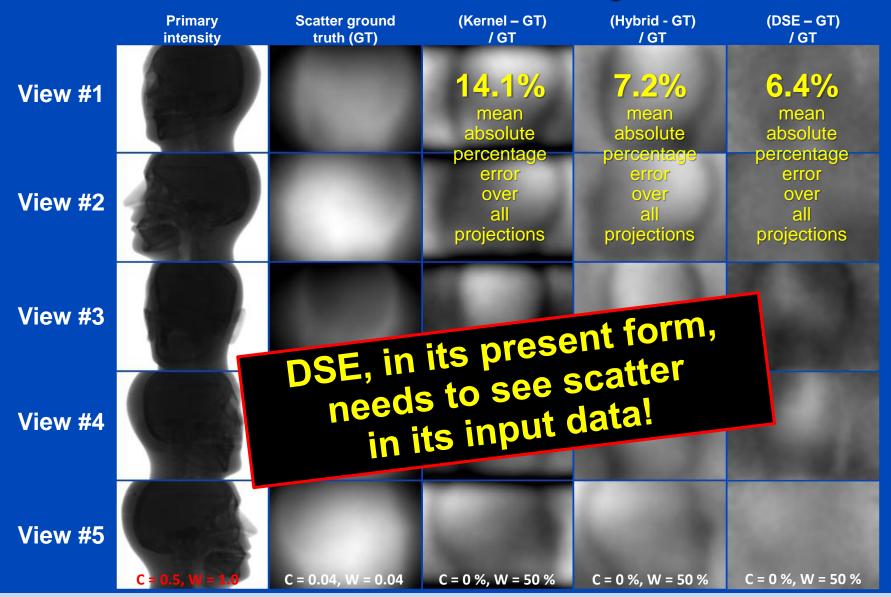


Results on Simulated Projection Data



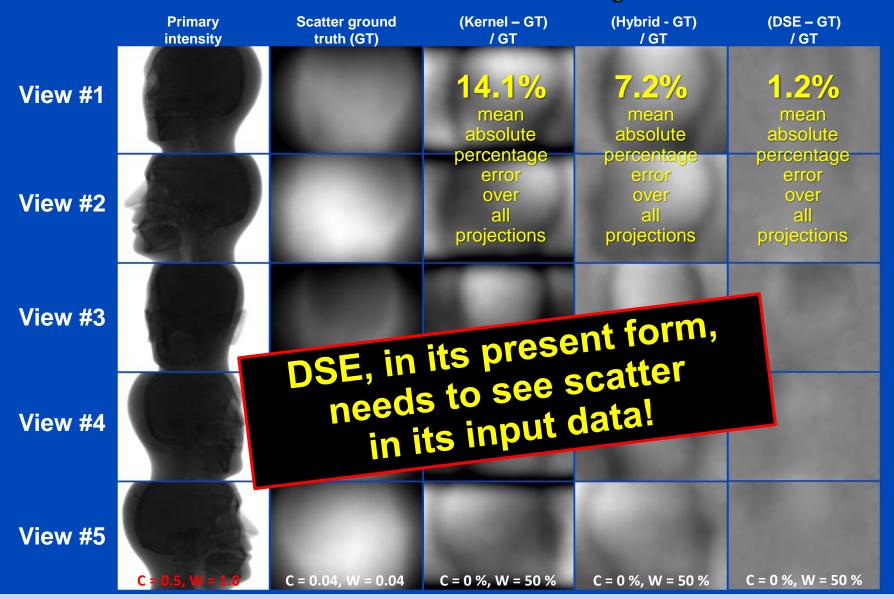


Results on Simulated Projection Data





Results on Simulated Projection Data





CT Reconstruction

Difference to ideal

C = 0 HU, W = 1000 HU

Testing of the DSE Network for Measured Data (120 kV)

DKFZ table-top CT

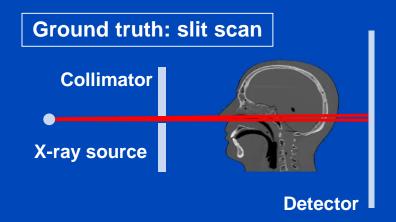


Measurement to be corrected

X-ray source

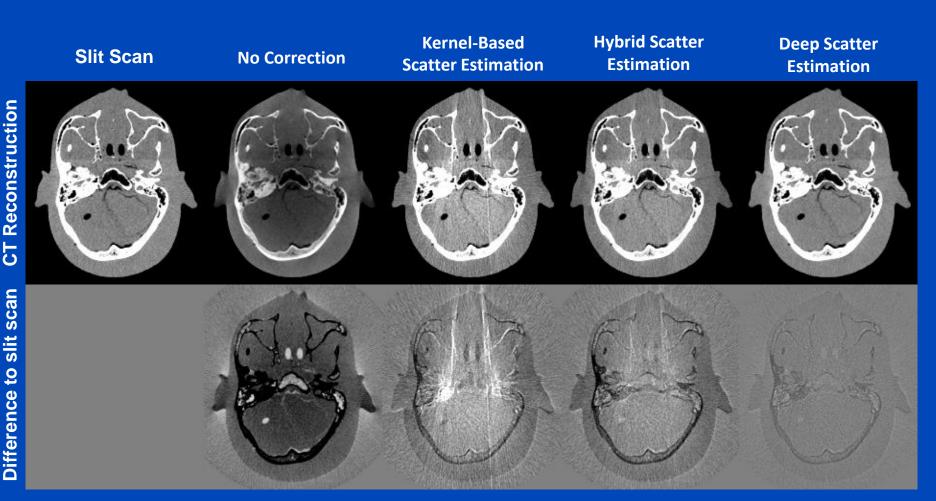
Detector

- Measurement of a head phantom at our in-house table-top CT.
- Slit scan measurement serves as ground truth.



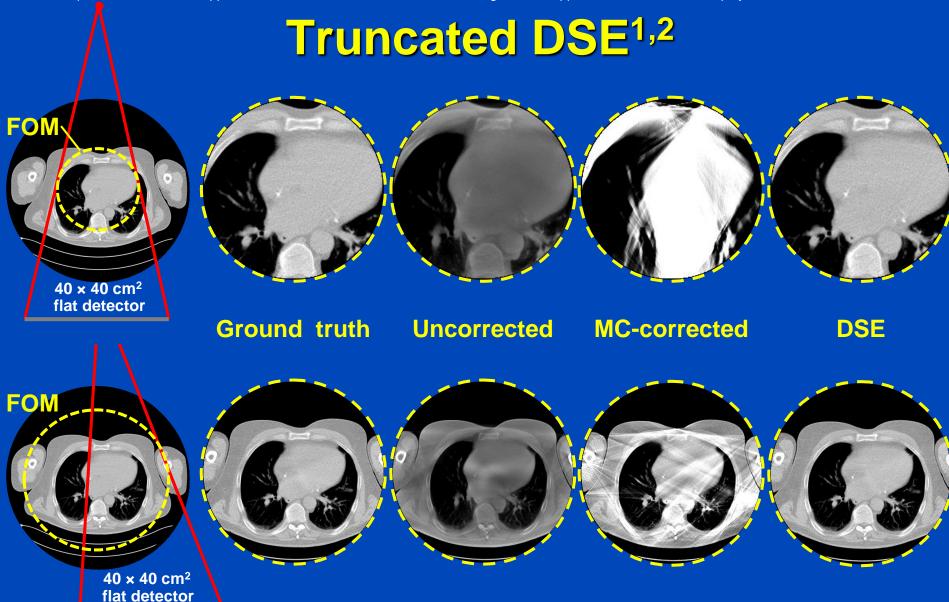


Reconstructions of Measured Data



C = 0 HU, *W* = 1000 HU





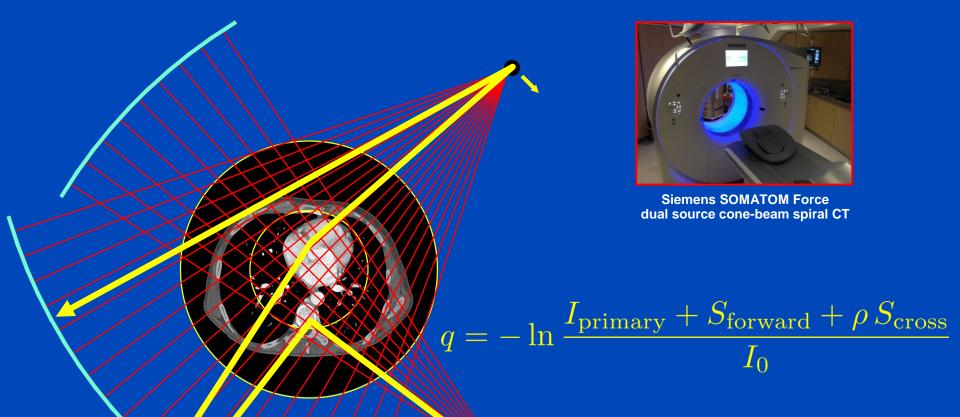
To learn why MC fails at truncated data and what significant efforts are necessary to cope with that situation see [Kachelrieß et al. Effect of detruncation on the accuracy of MC-based scatter estimation in truncated CBCT. Med. Phys. 45(8):3574-3590, August 2018].

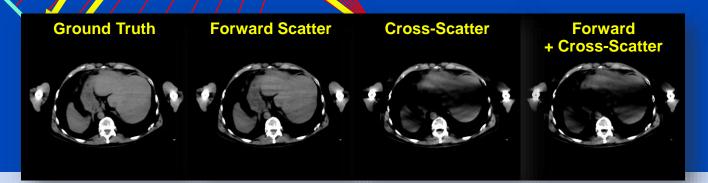
¹J. Maier, M. Kachelrieß et al. Deep scatter estimation (DSE) for truncated cone-beam CT (CBCT). RSNA 2018.

²J. Maier, M. Kachelrieß et al. Robustness of DSE. Med. Phys. 46(1):238-249, January 2019.

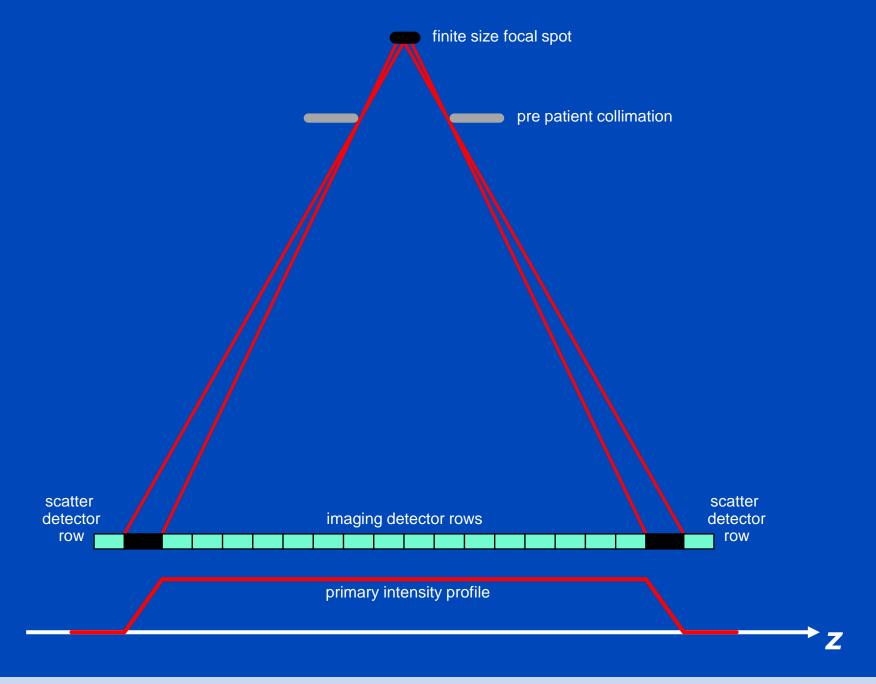


Scatter in Dual Source CT (DSCT)











Cross-DSE

Ground Truth



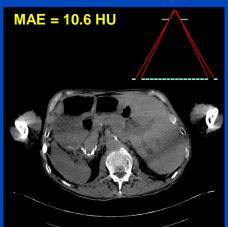
Uncorrected



xDSE (2D, xSSE)



Measurement-based









xDSE (2D, xSSE) maps
primary + forward scatter + cross-scatter + cross-scatter approximation → cross-scatter

Images C = 40 HU, W = 300 HU, difference images C = 0 HU, W = 300 HU

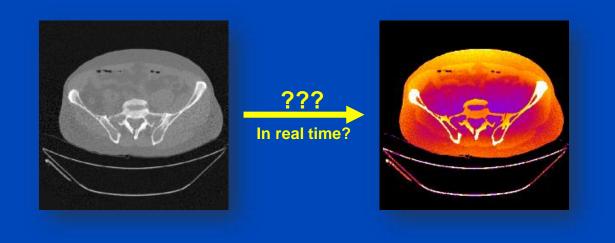


Conclusions on DSE

- DSE needs about 3 ms per CT and 10 ms per CBCT projection (as of 2020).
- DSE is a fast and accurate alternative to MC simulations.
- DSE outperforms kernel-based approaches in terms of accuracy and speed.
- Facts:
 - DSE can estimate scatter from a single (!) x-ray image.
 - DSE can accurately estimate scatter from a primary+scatter image.
 - DSE generalizes to all anatomical regions.
 - DSE works for geometries and beam qualities differing from training.
 - DSE may outperform MC even though DSE is trained with MC.
- DSE is not restricted to reproducing MC scatter estimates.
- DSE can rather be trained with any other scatter estimate, including those based on measurements.



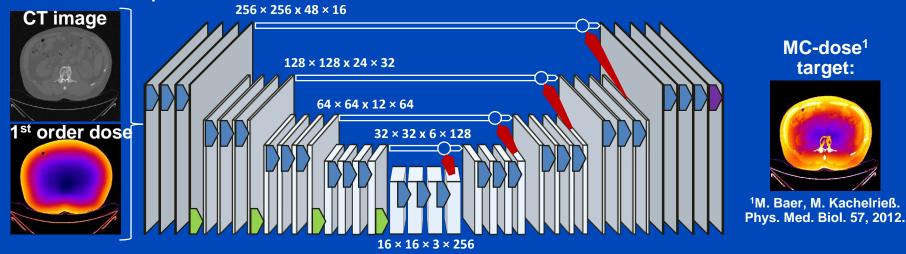
Deep Dose Estimation



Deep Dose Estimation (DDE)

- Combine fast and accurate CT dose estimation using a deep convolutional neural network.
- Train the network to reproduce MC dose estimates given the CT image and a first-order dose estimate.

2-channel input:



3 × 3 × 3 Convolution (stride = 1), ReLU

3 × 3 × 3 Convolution (stride = 2), ReLU

 $1 \times 1 \times 1$ Convolution (stride = 1), ReLU

2×2×2

2 × 2 × 2 Upsampling

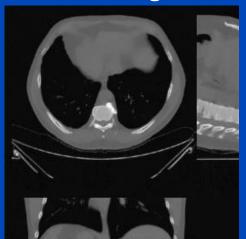
Depth concatenate



Results Thorax, tube A, 120 kV, with bowtie

CT image





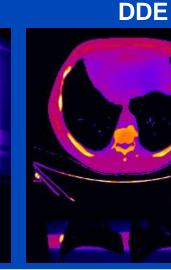


	MC	DDE
48 slices	1 h	0.25 s
whole body	20 h	5 s

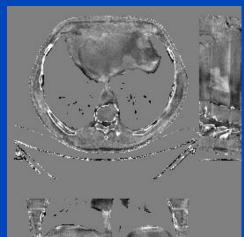
MC uses 16 CPU kernels DDE uses one Nvidia Quadro P600 **GPU**

DDE training took 74 h for 300 epochs, 1440 samples, 48 slices per sample

MC ground truth







W = 40%

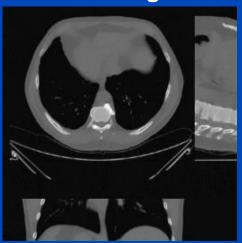


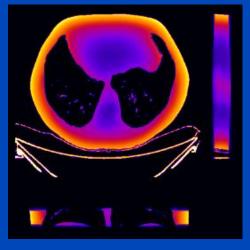


Results Thorax, tube A, 120 kV, no bowtie

CT image







	MC	DDE
48 slices	1 h	0.25 s
whole body	20 h	5 s

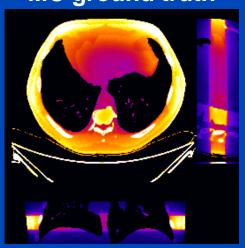
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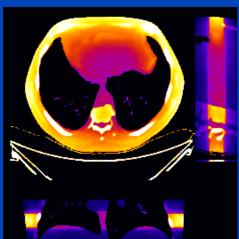
DDE training took 74 h for 300 epochs, 1440 samples, 48 slices per sample

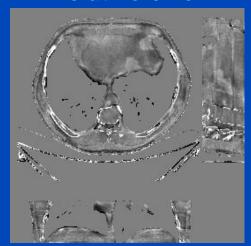
MC ground truth

DDE









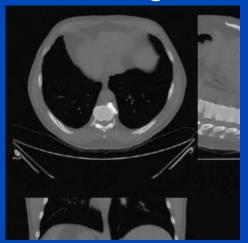
C = 0%W = 40%

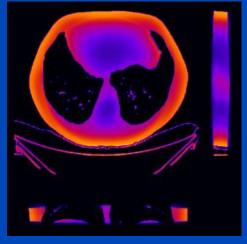


Results Thorax, tube B, 120 kV, no bowtie

CT image







	MC	DDE
48 slices	1 h	0.25 s
whole body	20 h	5 s

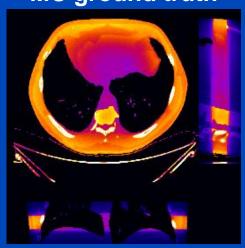
MC uses 16 CPU kernels DDE uses one Nvidia Quadro P600 GPU

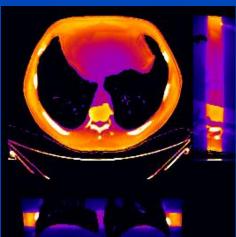
DDE training took 74 h for 300 epochs, 1440 samples, 48 slices per sample

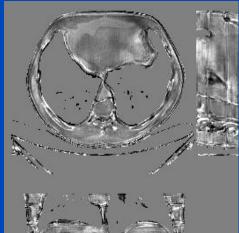
MC ground truth

DDE









C = 0% W = 40%



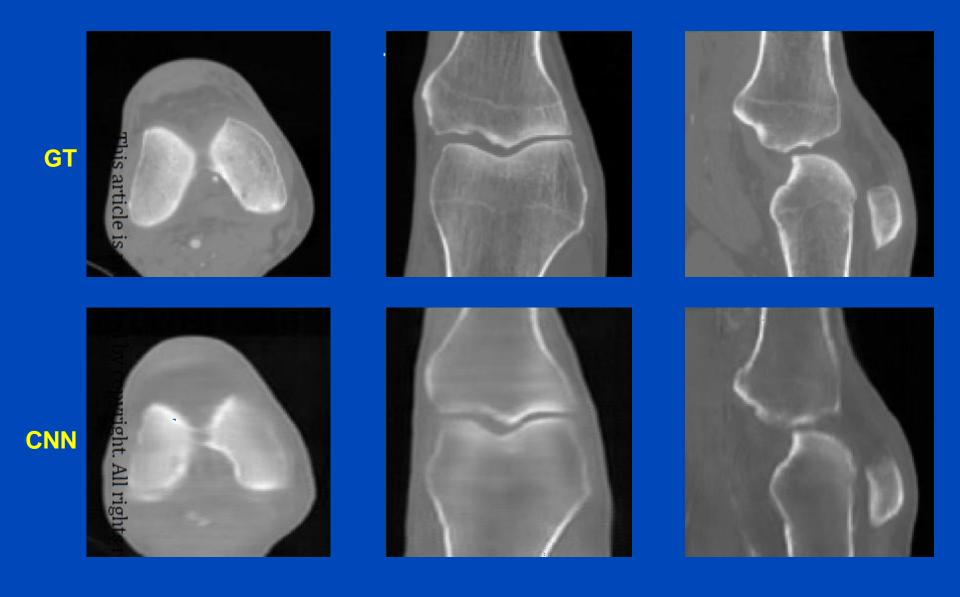
Conclusions on DDE

- DDE provides accurate dose predictions
 - for circle scans
 - for sequence scans
 - for partial scans (less than 360°)
 - for limited angle scans (less than 180°)
 - for spiral scans
 - for different tube voltages
 - for scans with and without bowtie filtration
 - for scans with tube current modulation
- In practice it may therefore be not necessary to perform separate training runs for these cases.
- Thus, accurate real-time patient dose estimation may become feasible with DDE.



Reconstruct from 1 or 2 Projections

- P. Henzler, V. Rasche, T. Ropinski, and T. Ritschel. Single-image Tomography: 3D Volumes from 2D X-Rays: 3D Volumes from 2D Cranial X-Rays. Computer Graphics Forum. 37(2):377-388, 2018.
 - N=1, mainly sculls in air but also mouse with soft tissue
 - modified U-Net without reducing the number of features in the decoder (2D -> 3D)
- Li Jiang, Shaoshuai Shi, Xiaojuan Qi, and Jiaya Jia. GAL: Geometric Adversarial Loss for Single-View 3D-Object Reconstruction. In: ECCV 2018 Lecture Notes in Computer Science 11212:820-834, 2018.
 - N=1, object shapes from photography
 - GAN-type network
- Yuan Xu, Hao Yan, Luo Ouyang, Jing Wang, Linghong Zhou, Laura Cervino, Steve B. Jiang, and Xun Jia. A Method for Volumetric Imaging in Radiotherapy using Single X-Ray Projection. Med. Phys. 42(5):2498-2509, 2015
 - N=1. Derives MVFs from an x-ray projection that are then applied to a 3D CBCT volume
 - Sparse learning
- Liyue Shen, Wei Zhao, and Lei Xing. Patient-Specific Reconstruction of Volumetric Computed
 Tomography Images from a Single Projection View via Deep Learning. Nat. Biomed. Eng. 3:880–888,
 2019.
 - N=1. Training and validation in the same patient. Example 1: train on 6 phases of 4D CT and test on the remaining 4 phases. Example 2: train on 4D CT of day 1 and test on 4D CT of day 2.
 2D encoder CNN, 2D->3D FCN, 3D decoder CNN.
- Xingde Ying, Heng Guo, Kai Ma, Jian Wu, Zhengxin Weng, and Yefeng Zheng. X2CT-GAN: Reconstructing CT from Biplanar X-Rays with Generative Adversarial Networks. arXiv:1905.06902v1, May 2019
 - N=2. Thorax cases
 - GAN with U-Net-type generator whose skips are backprojections.
- Diogo F. Almeida, Patricio Astudillo, and Dirk Vandermeulen. 3D Image Volumes From 2D Digitally Reconstructed X-Rays: A Deep Learning Approach In Lower Limb CT-Scans. Med. Phys. 48:published online, 2021.
 - N=2. Lower limb DRRs.
 - Based on Henzler et al. (see above).



What for?

- Avoid CT scans if only coarse 3D information is required.
- Real-time guidance in RT or in intervention: Generate 4D volumes from fluoroscopy (a series of x-ray CT image)
- Niche applications
 - Assess location and size of organs from just one or two x-ray images
 - Patient position verification
 - **–** ...
- Perform patient-specific tube current modulation (next slides).



Patient Risk-Minimizing Tube Current Modulation

1. Coarse reconstruction from two scout views

 E.g. X. Ying, et al. X2CT-GAN: Reconstructing CT from biplanar x-rays with generative adversarial networks. CVPR 2019.



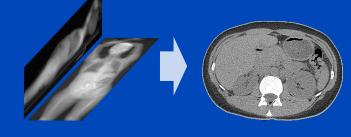
 E.g. S. Chen, M. Kachelrieß et al., Automatic multi-organ segmentation in dual-energy CT (DECT) with dedicated 3D fully convolutional DECT networks. Med. Phys. 2019.



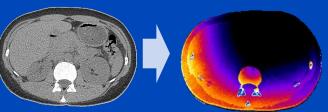
J. Maier, E. Eulig, S. Dorn, S. Sawall and M. Kachelrieß.
 Real-time patient-specific CT dose estimation using a deep convolutional neural network. IEEE Medical Imaging
 Conference Record, M-03-178: 3 pages, Nov. 2018.

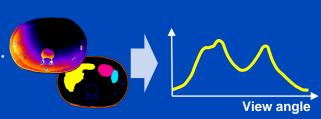
4. Determination of the tube current modulation curve that minimizes the radiation risk

 L. Klein, J. Maier, C. Liu, A. Maier, M. Lell, and M. Kachelrieß.
 Patient radiation risk—minimizing tube current modulation for diagnostic CT. Submitted to Med. Phys., 2021.











Remainder 0.12

Bone surface 0.01

Brain 0.01

Breast 0.12

Colon 0.12

Red Bone Marrow 0.12

Salivary glands 0.01

Esophagus 0.04

Liver 0.04

Lung 0.12

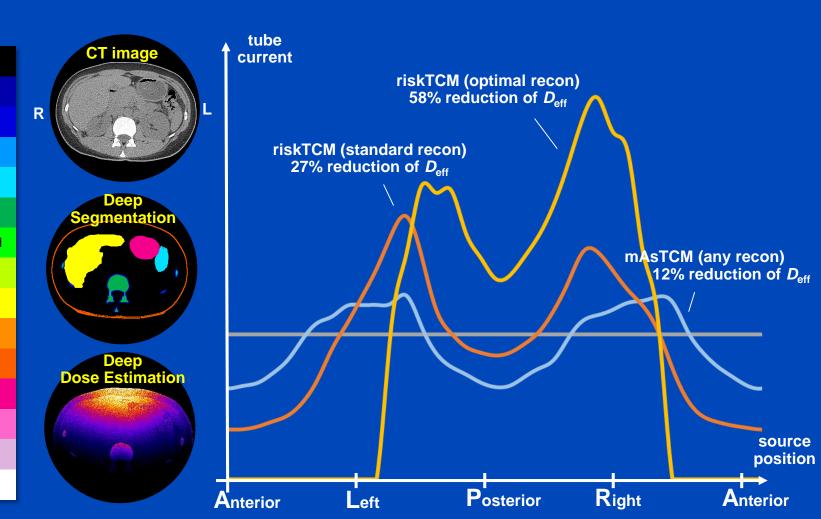
Skin 0.01

Stomach 0.12

Gonads 0.08

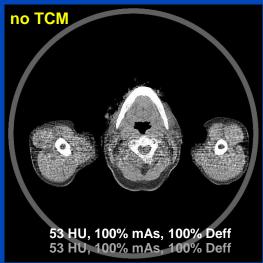
Thyroid 0.04

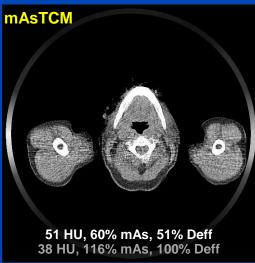
Bladder 0.04

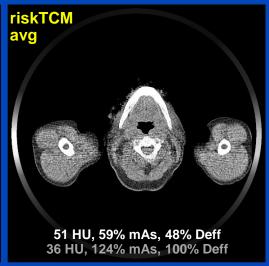


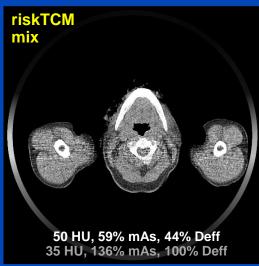


Patient 03 - Neck

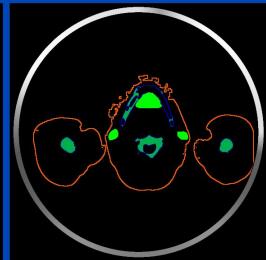






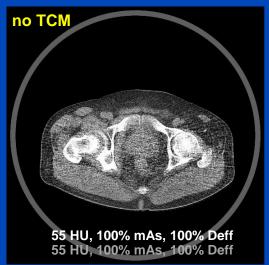


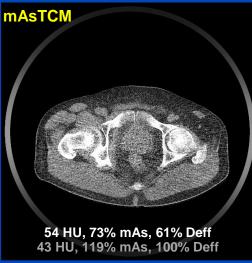


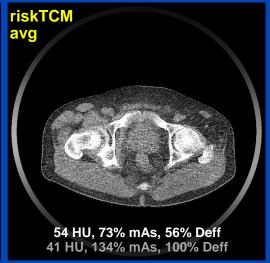


Re 0.12 BS 0.01 Br 0.01 Br 0.12 Co 0.12 RB 0.12 SG 0.01 Es 0.04 Li 0.04 Lu 0.12 Sk 0.01 St 0.12 Go 0.08 Th 0.04 Bl 0.04

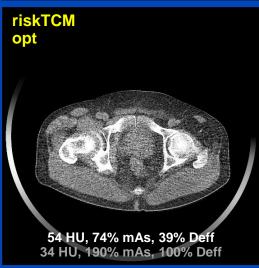
Patient 03 - Pelvis

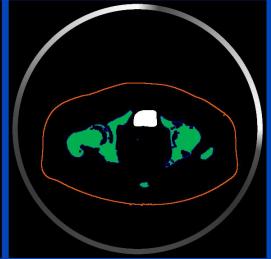






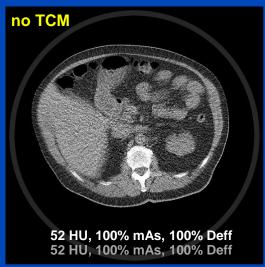


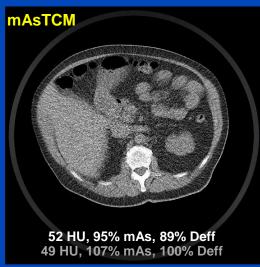


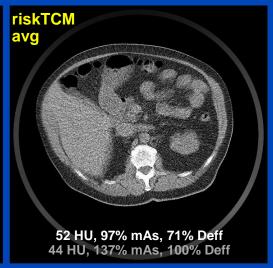


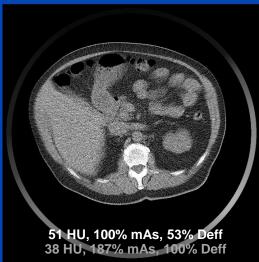
Re 0.12 BS 0.01 Br 0.01 Br 0.12 Co 0.12 RB 0.12 SG 0.01 Es 0.04 Li 0.04 Lu 0.12 Sk 0.01 St 0.12 Go 0.08 Th 0.04 BI 0.04

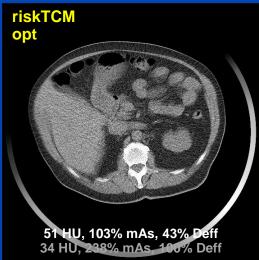
Patient 04 - Abdomen

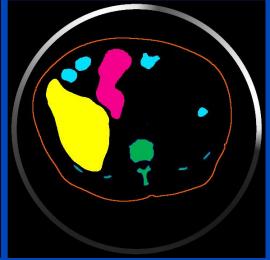












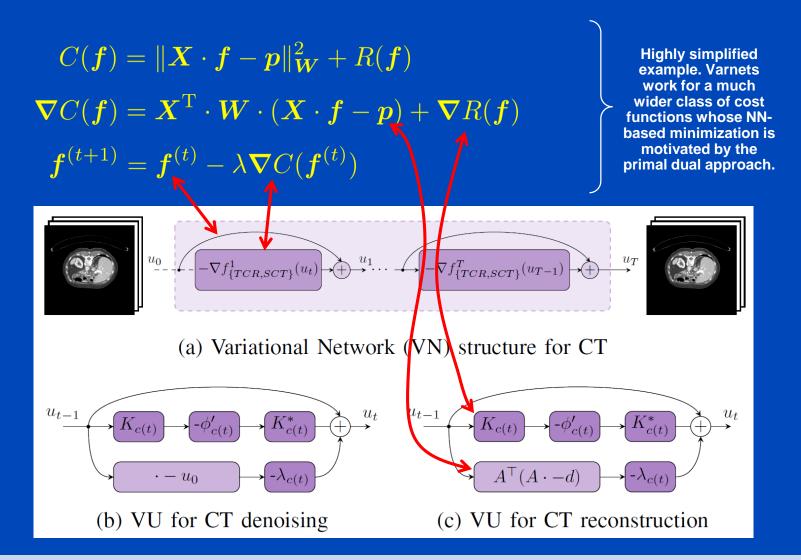
Re 0.12 BS 0.01 Br 0.01 Br 0.12 Co 0.12 RB 0.12 SG 0.01 Es 0.04 Li 0.04 Lu 0.12 Sk 0.01 St 0.12 Go 0.08 Th 0.04 Bl 0.04

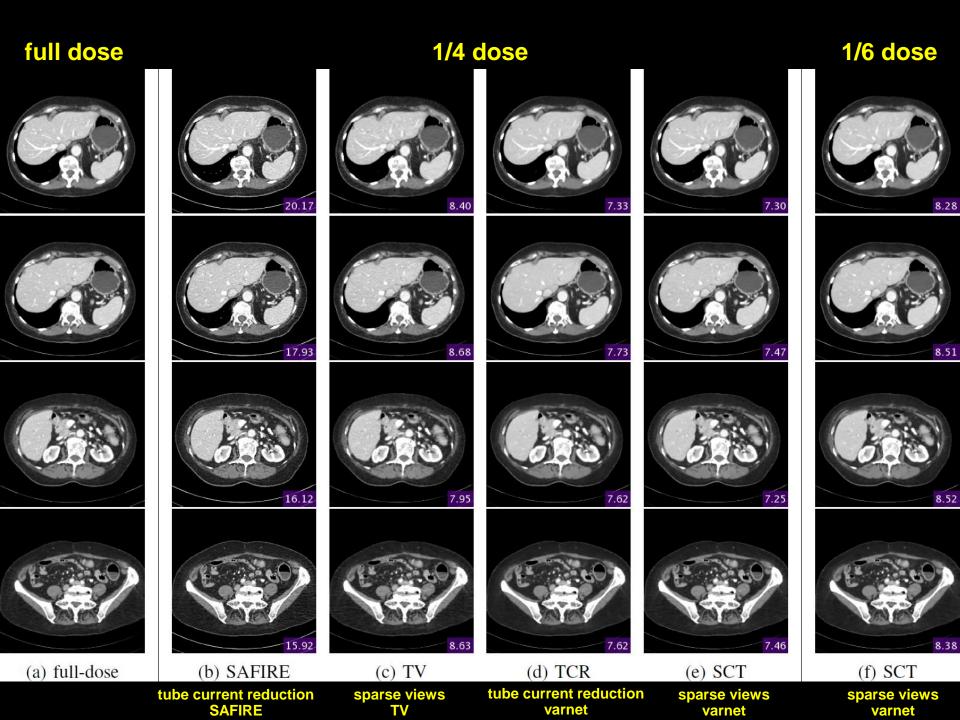
Part 4:

Image Reconstruction



Variational Network-Based Image Reconstruction





Part 5:

Motion Compensation (MoCo)



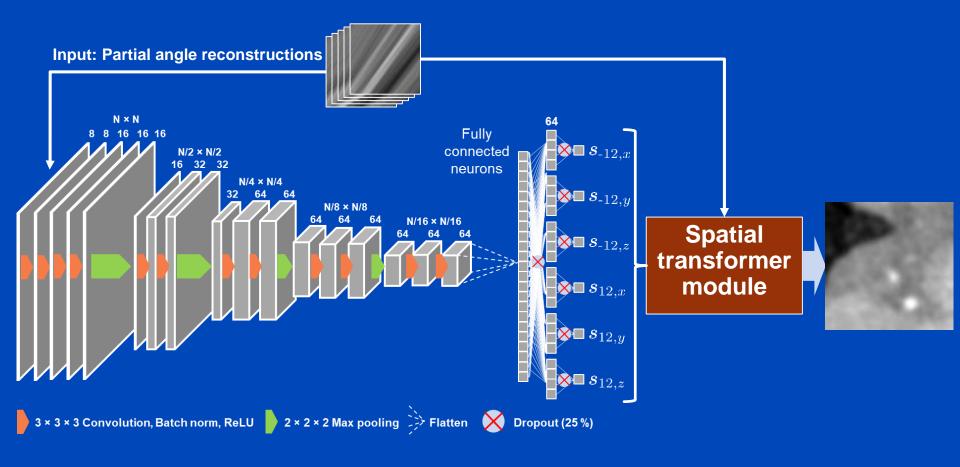
Deep Cardiac Motion Compensation





Deep PAMoCo

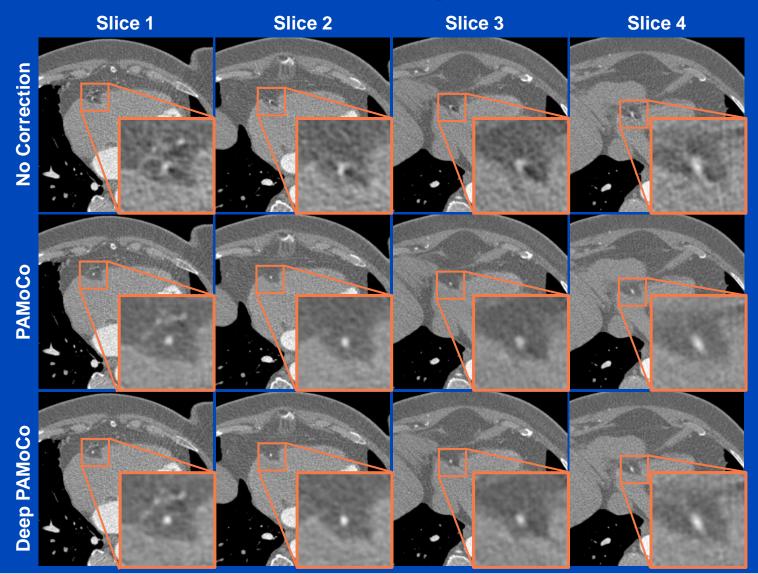
Network architecture



J. Maier, S. Lebedev, J. Erath, E. Eulig, S. Sawall, E. Fournié, K. Stierstorfer, M. Lell, and M. Kachelrieß. Deep learning-based coronary artery motion estimation and compensation for short-scan cardiac CT. Med. Phys. 48, in press, 2021.



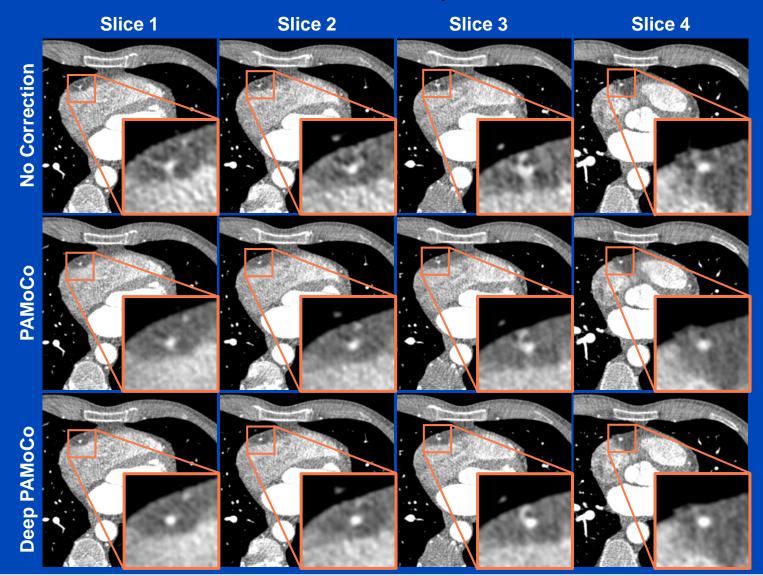
Measurements, patient 1



C = 1000 HU W = 1000 HU



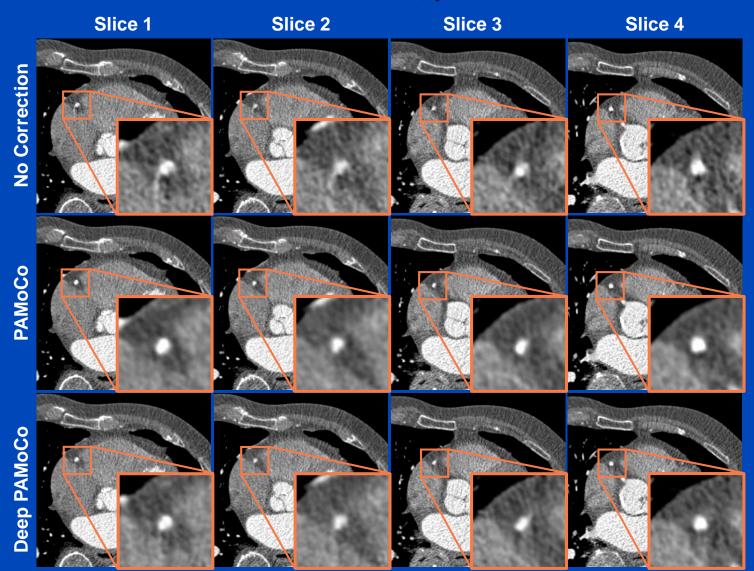
Measurements, patient 2



C = 1000 HU W = 1000 HU



Measurements, patient 3



C = 1100 HU W = 1000 HU





Intervention goes Deep!

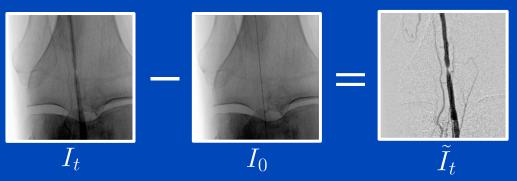
Deep DSA



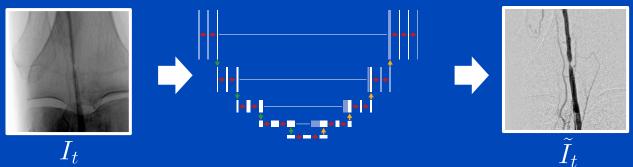


Methods General principle

Conventional DSA



Deep DSA



Train on static cases where ground truth is conventional DSA



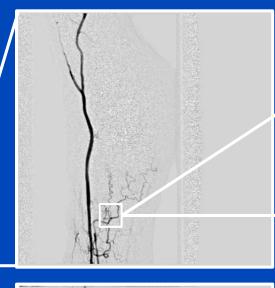


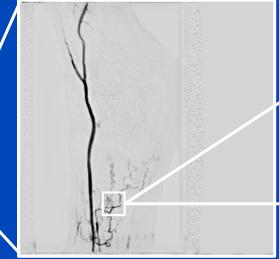


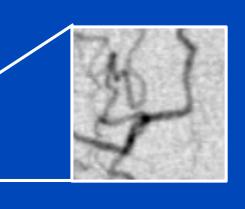
Ground truth DSA

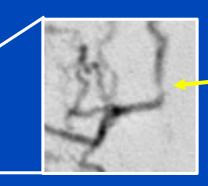


CNN output



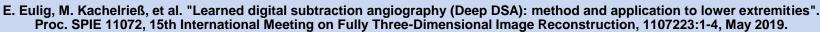






Artificially introduced stenosis?

Due to a low amount of training data and a low variability of the training data available to us the results shown on this slide are not optimal, yet.





Deep DSA

Fluoroscopy



DSA (fluoro minus mask)



Deep DSA (from fluoro only)



Due to a low amount of training data and a low variability of the training data available to us the results shown on this slide are not optimal, yet.



Results Bolus chase study



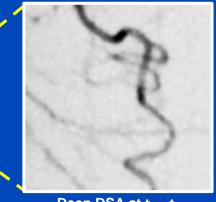
Conventional DSA

Conventional DSA infeasible due to C-arm motion





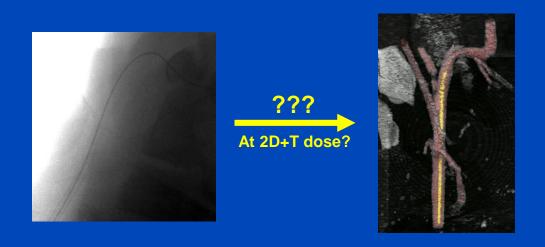




Deep DSA at $t = t_a$

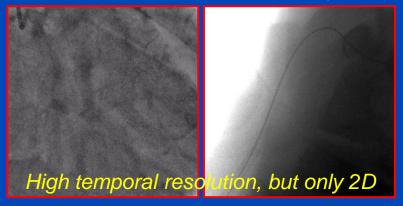


Deep 3D+T Fluoroscopy



Deep 3D+T Tomographic Fluoroscopy

either 2D+T fluoroscopy



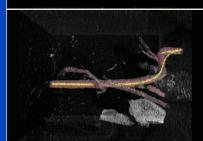








3D+T tomographic fluoroscopy? At low dose? How???

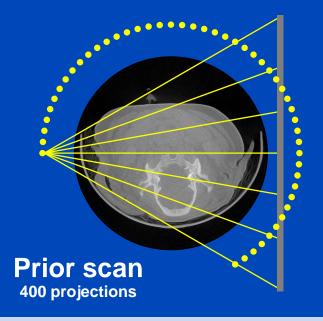


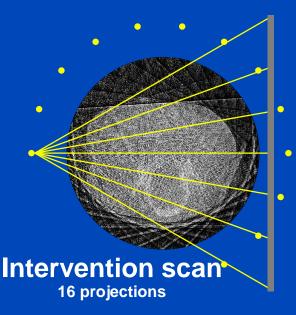




How to Realize 3D+T Fluoroscopy

- Low dose by:
 - Low tube current
 - Very few projections (pulsed mode)
- Advantages of intervention guidance:
 - Repetitive scanning of the same body region: changes are sparse.
 - Interventional materials are fine structures (few voxels) of high contrast (metal).







Experimental setup



3D+T Image Guidance at 2D+T Dose

Stent Expansion in the Carotis of a Pig with Angio Roadmap Overlay

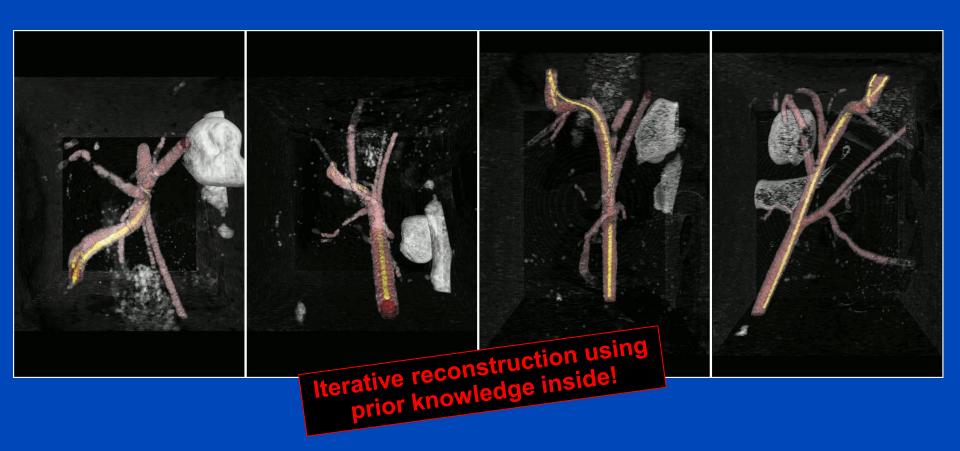


Dose of the yet unoptimized approach: 20 bis 50 µGy/s.



3D+T Fluoroscopy at 2D+T Dose

Guide Wire in the Carotis of a Pig with Angio Roadmap Overlay

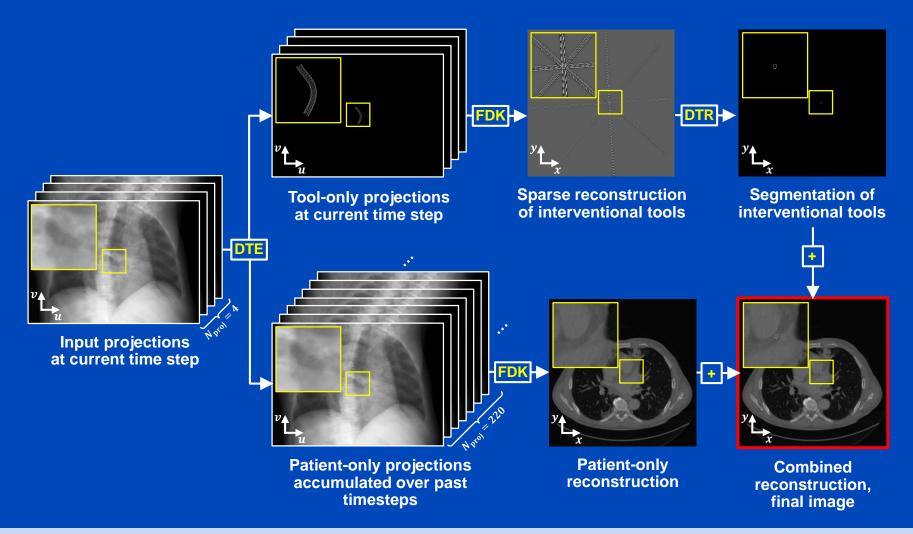


Dose of the yet unoptimized approach: 20 to 50 µGy/s. Obviously, 16 projections are too much.

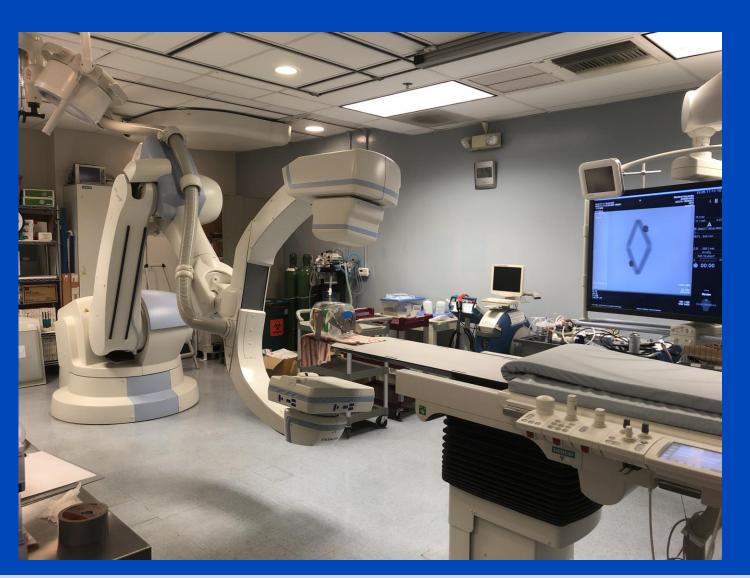


New Method: 4 Projections Only!

Deep Tool Extraction (DTE), Feldkamp Recon (FDK), Deep Tool Reconstruction (DTR)



Zeego @ Stanford University

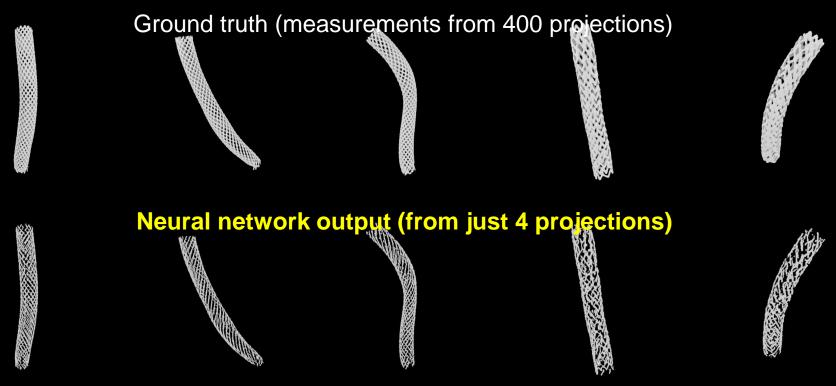








Zeego Measurements with Just 4 Projections



Loop through slices reconstructed from just 4 projections without Al:

Stent examples:







This presentation will soon be available at www.dkfz.de/ct.

Job opportunities through DKFZ's international PhD or Postdoctoral Fellowship programs (marc.kachelriess@dkfz.de).

Parts of the reconstruction software were provided by RayConStruct® GmbH, Nürnberg, Germany.

