



The I-STAR Lab

Imaging for Surgery, Therapy, and Radiology

JOHNS HOPKINS UNIVERSITY  
SCHOOLS OF ENGINEERING AND MEDICINE

# Seminar Presentation: **Self-calibration of cone-beam CT geometry using 3D-2D image registration**

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# Project Overview

**Goal:** Develop user-friendly interfaces to simulate fluoroscopic views of mobile C-arm

**Challenge:** “Fluoro-hunting”

- Multiple fluoroscopic shots taken for an optimal view
- Time consuming, radiation exposure, physically cumbersome, safety issue

**Solution:** Digitally Reconstructed Radiograph (DRR) generated from preoperative 3D CT data.

- Less time consuming
- Less radiation exposure for both physicians and patients
- Less user variability, more consistency



<http://www.simeks.com.tr/en/portfolio-item/siemens-cios-alpha/>



# Paper Selection

Ouadah, S., J. W. Stayman, G. J. Gang, T. Ehtiati, and J. H. Siewerdsen. "Self-calibration of Cone-beam CT Geometry Using 3D–2D Image Registration." *Physics in Medicine and Biology Phys. Med. Biol.* 61.7 (2016): 2613-632. Web.

**Goal:** Geometric calibration method that registers the 2D projection data to a previously acquired 3D image of the subject, providing a 'self calibration' of the system

**Challenges:**

- 1) Out-of-date calibration (over-time, irreproducibility in the orbit)
- 2) Complicated non-circular orbits, inability to anticipate all possible trajectories

**Relevance:** One of our maximum deliverables is 3D-2D patient-CT image registration to get rid of optical tracking system

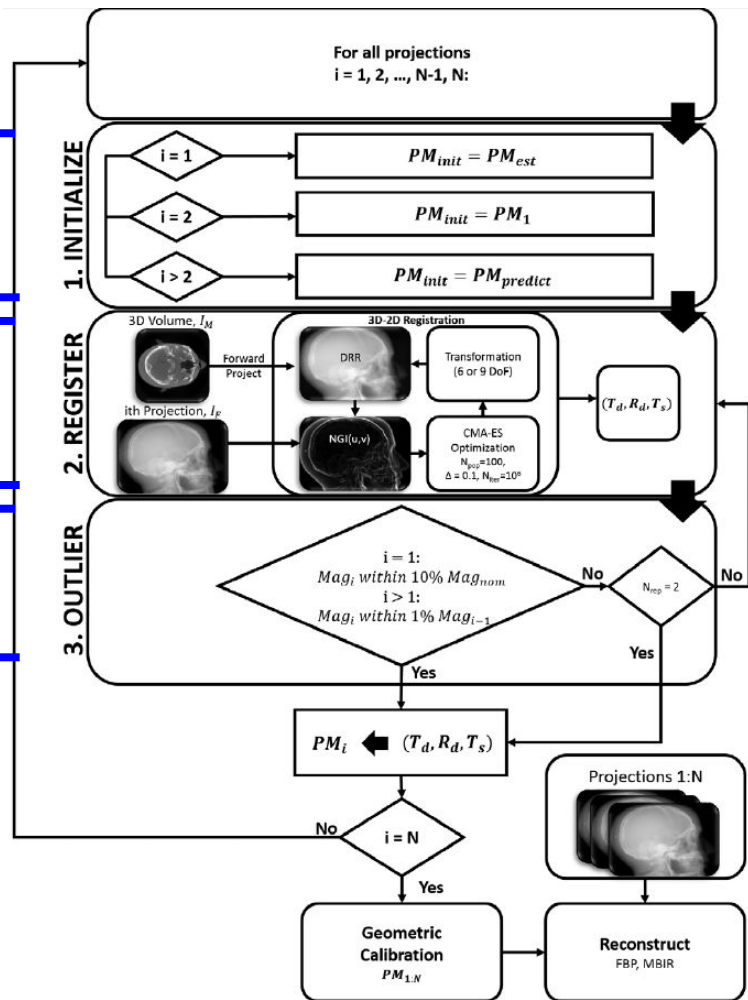
# Technical Approach - Overview

Step 1. Registration is initialized

Step 2. 3D-2D Registration

: Solving for 6 or 9 DoF using **normalized gradient information (NGI)** as similarity metric and **covariance matrix adaptation-evolution strategy (CMA-ES)** optimizer

Step 3. Check for outliers



# Technical Approach - 1. Initialization

## $i = 1$ (first projection)

- Coarse estimation based on geometry:  $T_{d,z}$  and  $T_{s,z}$  are initialized as object-detector distance and detector-source distance
- For orientation, use brute force (rotate  $90^\circ$  about the 3 cardinal axes) to check for all possible 24 orientations and select whichever yielded maximum similarity as  $PM_1$ .

## $i = 2$ (second projection)

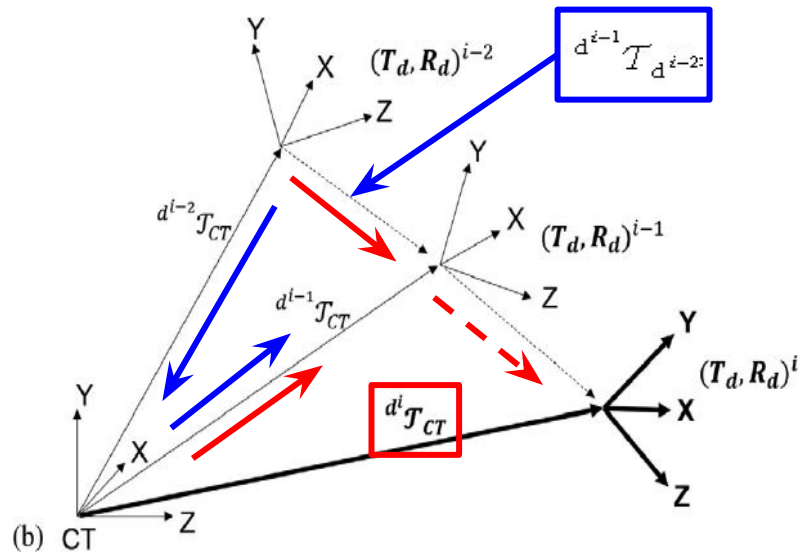
- Initialized using  $PM_1$

## $i > 2$

- $PM_{\text{predict}}$  is based on the geometries of the previous two views

- $${}^{d^{i-1}}T_{d^{i-2}} = {}^{d^{i-1}}T_{CT} ({}^{d^{i-2}}T_{CT})^{-1}$$

- $${}^d T_{CT} = {}^{d^{i-1}} T_{d^{i-2}} ({}^{d^{i-1}} T_{CT}), \quad : \text{Taken as initialization for } i\text{th view}$$



# Technical Approach - 2. 3D-2D Image Registration

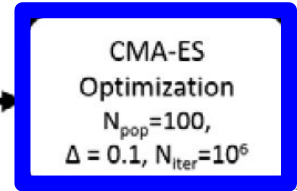
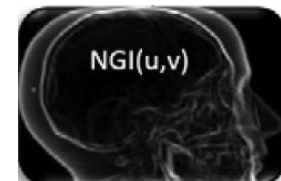
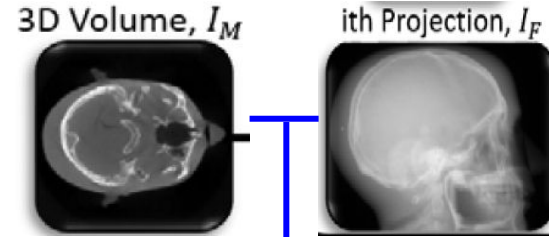
- Based on work of Otake *et al* (2012, 2013)
- Incorporates **normalized gradient information (NGI)** as a robust similarity metric within the covariance matrix adaptation-evolution strategy (**CMA-ES**) optimizer

- **Similarity(NGI)** between CT ( $I_M$ ) and 2D projection ( $I_F$ )

$$\widehat{T}_s, \widehat{T}_d, \widehat{R}_d = \underset{T_s, T_d, R_d \in S}{\operatorname{argmax}} \operatorname{NGI}(I_F, I_M(T_s, T_d, R_d)).$$

- PM is composed in this way:

$$PM := \begin{pmatrix} T_{s,z} & 0 & T_{s,x} & 0 \\ 0 & T_{s,z} & T_{s,y} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{R}_{3 \times 3}(R_{d,x}, R_{d,y}, R_{d,z}) & T_{d,x} \\ & T_{d,y} \\ & T_{d,z} \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix},$$

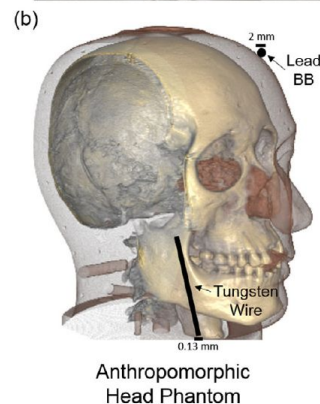
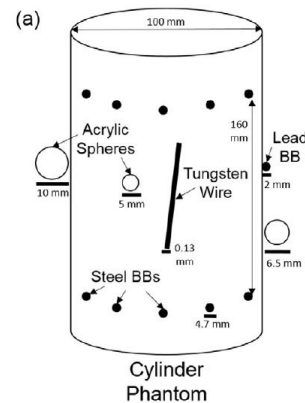
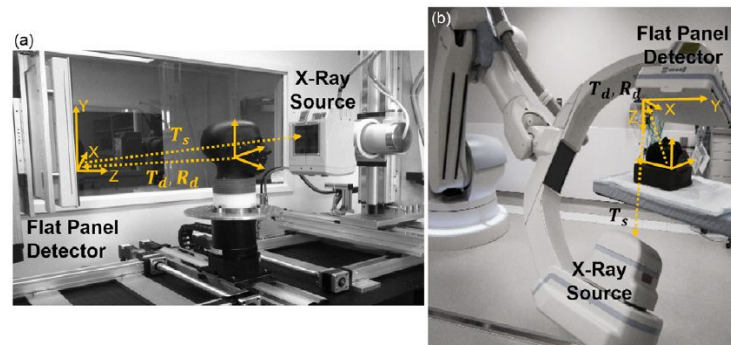


$$\operatorname{NGI}(I_F, I_M) = \frac{GI(I_M, I_F)}{GI(I_F, I_F)}$$

\*3D-2D registration is performed for either 6 or 9 DoF.  
An assumption that the source position ( $T_s$ ) is fixed with respect to the detector reduces the system geometry from 9 DoF to 6 DoF.

# Experimental Method - Overview

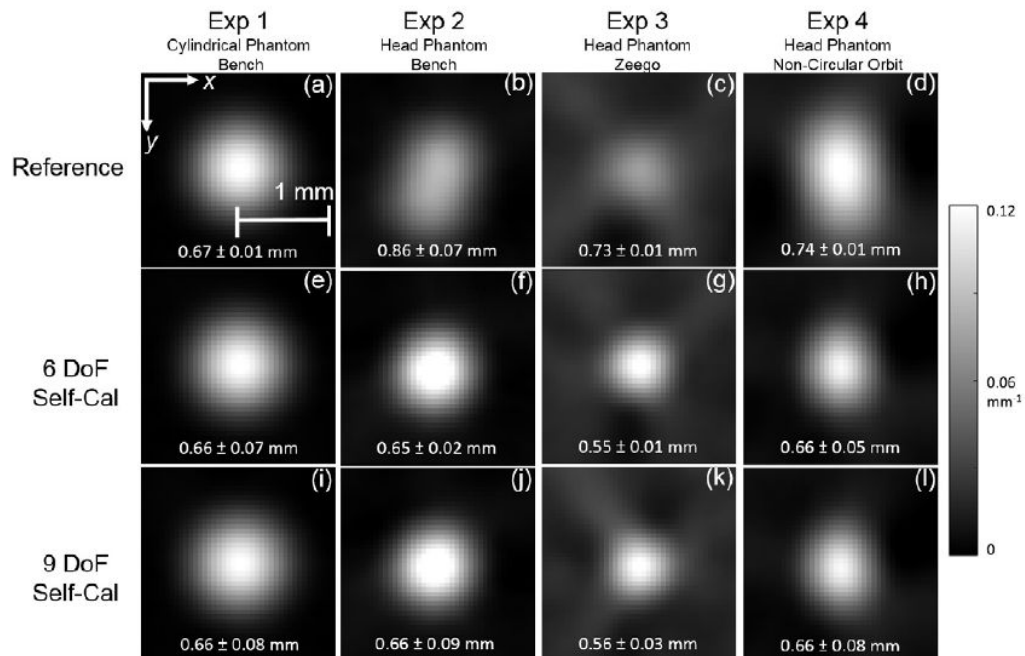
- **Experiment 1:** Cylinder phantom on imaging bench
- **Experiment 2:** Anthropomorphic head phantom on imaging bench
- **Experiment 3:** Anthropomorphic head phantom on robotic C-arm
- **Experiment 4:** non-circular orbit
- **Performance Evaluation Criteria**
  - Full-width at half maximum (**FWHM**) of a point spread function (PSF) (measured from the tungsten wire in each phantom) for spatial resolution evaluation
  - Reprojection error (**RPE**) associated with the position of the lead BB on the surface of both phantoms
  - Quality of 3D image reconstructions in terms of blur, noise, and artifacts (e.g. streak artifacts and distortion of high contrast details)



# Results - 1. Spatial Resolution (FWHM of the PSF)

	EXP 1 (mm)	EXP 2 (mm)	EXP 3 (mm)	EXP 4 (mm)
Ref	0.67	0.86	0.73	0.74
6 DoF	0.66	<b>0.65</b>	<b>0.55</b>	<b>0.66</b>
9 DoF	0.66	<b>0.66</b>	<b>0.56</b>	<b>0.66</b>

- Exp 1 has similar results.
- Exp 2 and 3 shows improvement in FWHM. General shape and intensity of PSF is improved.
- Exp 4 shows feasibility of self-calibration method for non-circular orbits.



Exp1: Cylindrical phantom + bench

Exp2: Head phantom + bench

Exp3: Head phantom + C-arm

Exp4: non-circular orbit, head phantom + bench

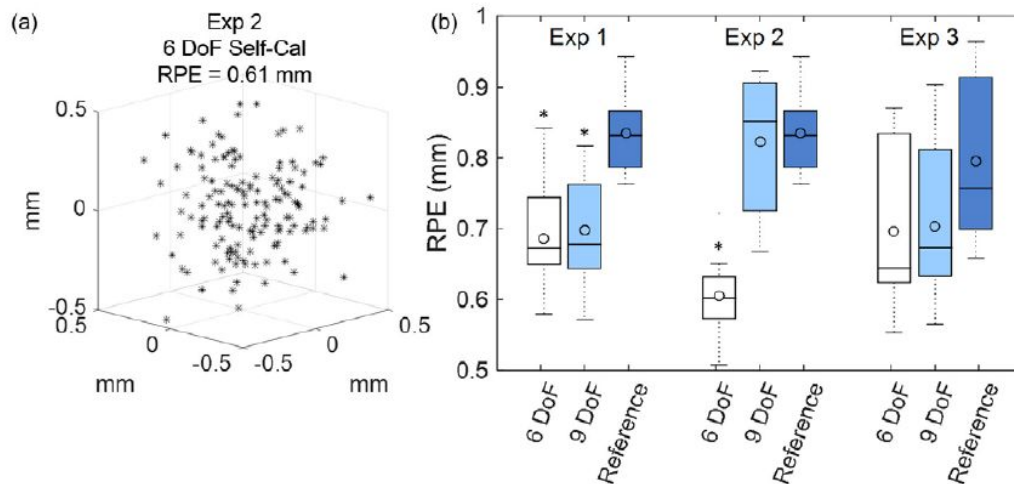
Note: Reference calibration for exp 4 is for circular orbit



# Results - 2. RPE

	EXP 1 (mm)	EXP 2 (mm)
Ref	0.83	0.84
6 DoF	<b>~0.69</b>	<b>0.61</b>
9 DoF		<b>0.82</b>

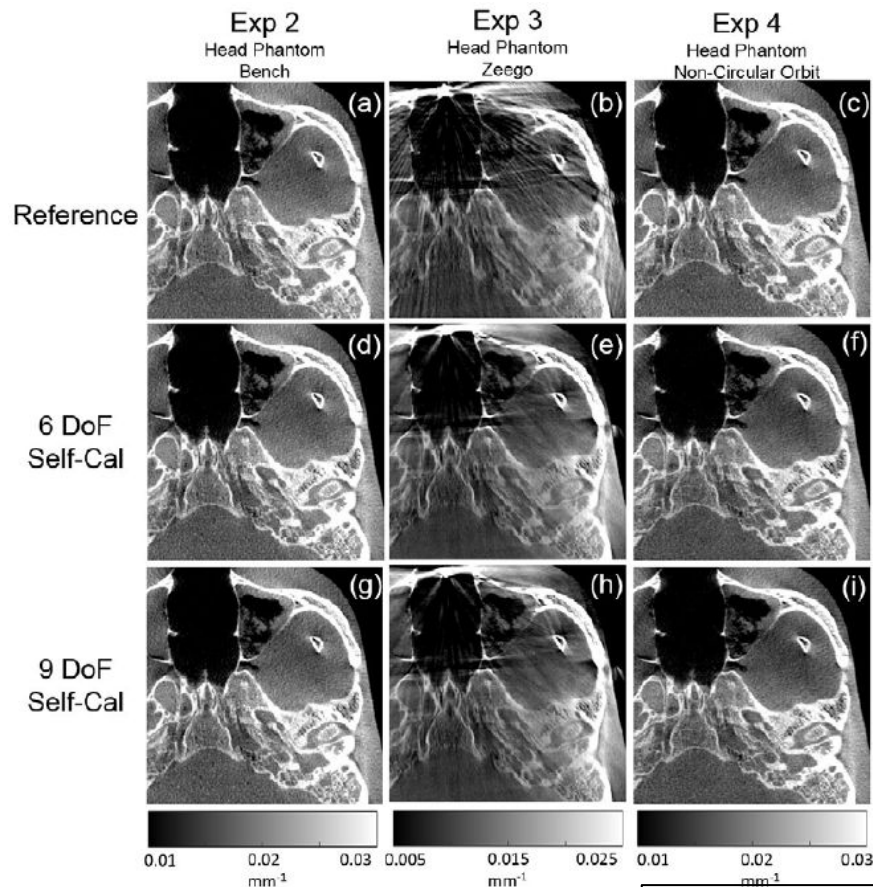
- In exp 1, statistically significant improvement in RPE for self-calibration
- In exp 2, 6 DoF self-calibration method shows significant improvement in RPE
- In exp 3, mean and median of RPE values are improved for self-calibration but the difference is not statistically significant.



Exp1: Cylindrical phantom + bench  
Exp2: Head phantom + bench  
Exp3: Head phantom + C-arm

# Results - 3. Image Quality

- Exp 2 shows qualitatively accurate reconstruction of the skull image for both reference and self-calibration methods.
- Exp 3 shows noticeable improvement using self-calibration as streak artifact is reduced.
- Exp 4 shows that self-calibration using a saddle orbit (non-circular orbit) has qualitatively identical image reconstruction



Exp2: Head phantom + bench

Exp3: Head phantom + C-arm

Exp4: non-circular orbit, head phantom + bench

Note: Reference  
calibration for exp 4  
is for circular orbit

# Assessment

## Pros:

- Experiments on multiple set-ups using simple object (cylindrical phantom) and complex object (head phantom) on imaging bench and robotic C-arm
- Tested multiple criteria (FWHM, RPE, image quality)
- Shows feasibility of geometric calibration on non-circular orbits

## Cons:

- Image quality does not include quantitative supports.
- No mention of run-time for a complete scan.
- Refer to other paper for explanation (e.g. 3D-2D image registration), only listing of equations.

# Conclusion

- Good possible method for 3D-2D image registration for one of our maximum deliverable in our project
- Applicable to our project since our C-arm can make oblique movements with non-circular trajectories.

Questions?