

Prior Models on Coronary Arteries to Support Coronary Artery Detection



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Project Summary

Problem:

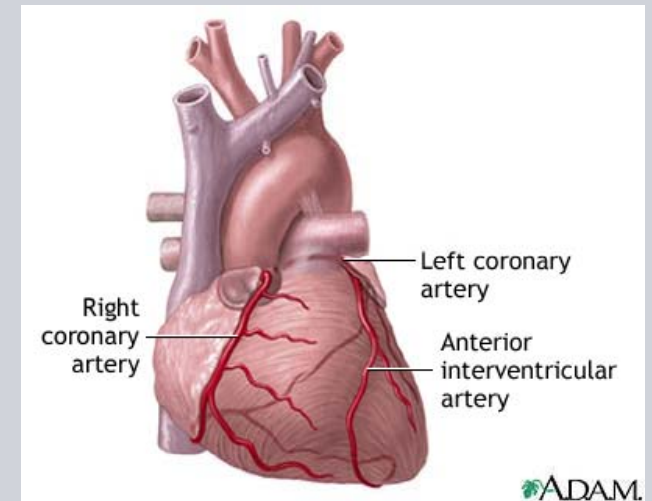
Detection of coronary arteries in CTA is a difficult task due to

- their high anatomical variability
- pathologies and imaging artifacts

Project Goal:

Build prior coronary models to

- improve detection
- allow for statistical analysis

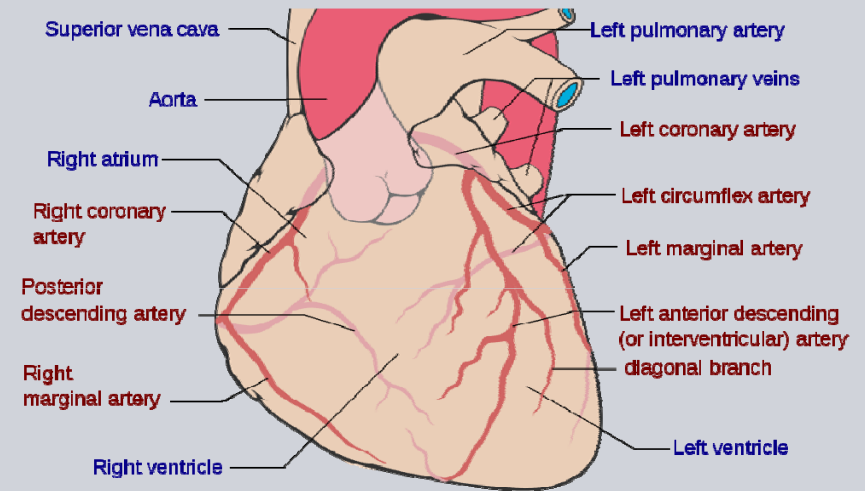


nlm.nih.gov

Motivation: Coronary Arteries

Function and Anatomy

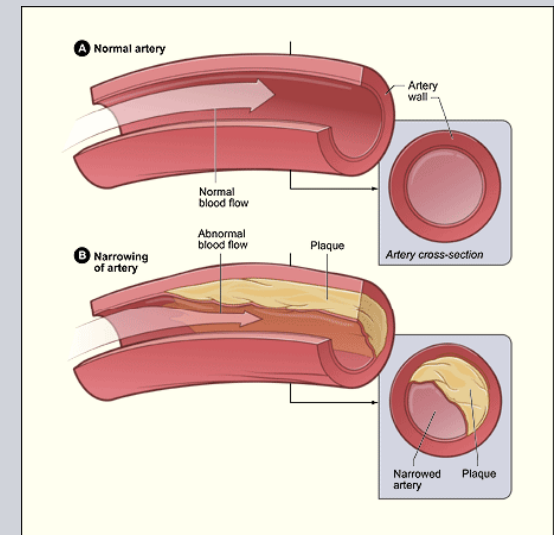
- Oxygen and nutrient supply of heart
- Left and right coronary trees
- Left-(%10), Right-(70%) or Co-Dominant (%20)



wikipedia.com

Coronary Artery Disease

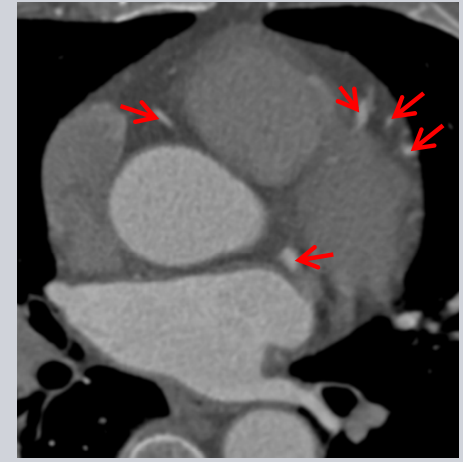
- Soft and hard plaque formation (*Atherosclerosis*)
- Common Symptom: Chest pain
- Cause: Heart attack
- 53% of cardiovascular diseases. Leading cause of death in the United States!



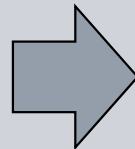
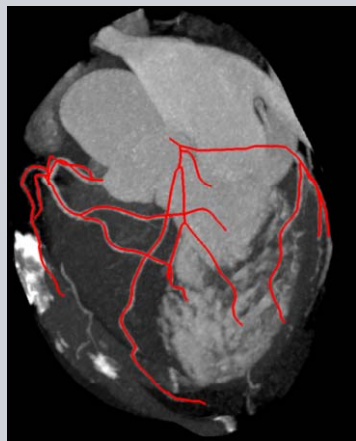
nhlbi.nih.gov

Motivation: Diagnosis, Treatment

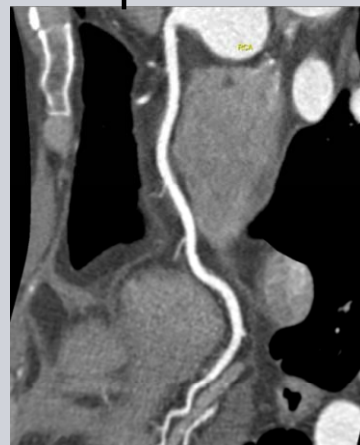
- CTA as primary imaging modality
- Difficult and time-consuming to interpret raw data



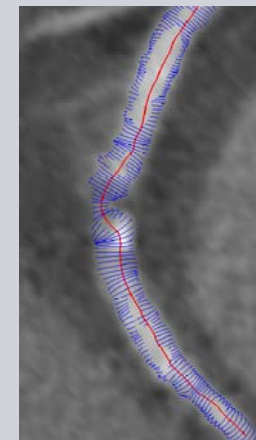
Detected Coronary Centerlines



Diagnosis and Follow-up



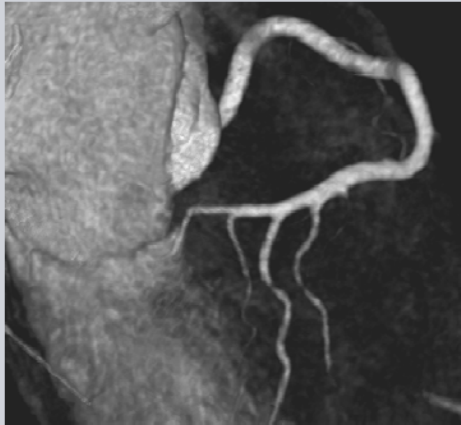
Treatment Planning



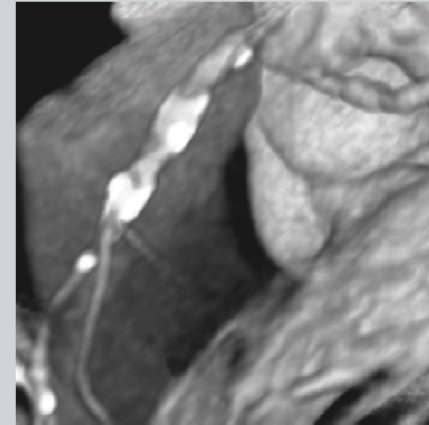
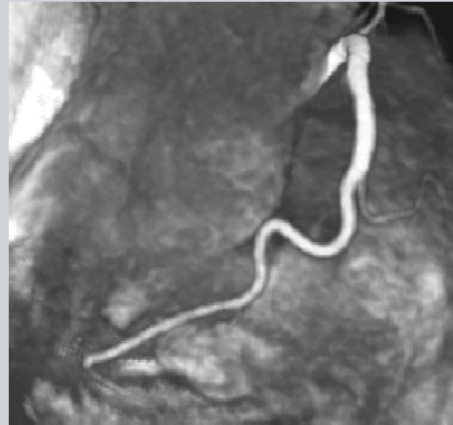
Intra-operative Guidance

Overlay on X-ray for guidance

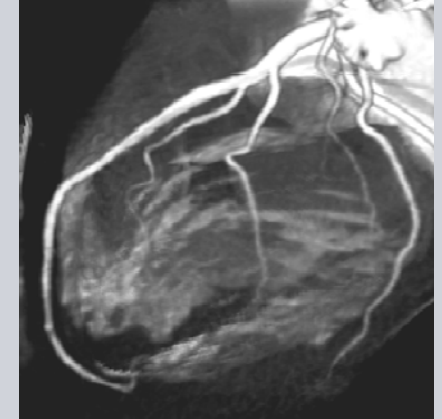
Motivation: Challenges For Detection



Irregularity of anatomy



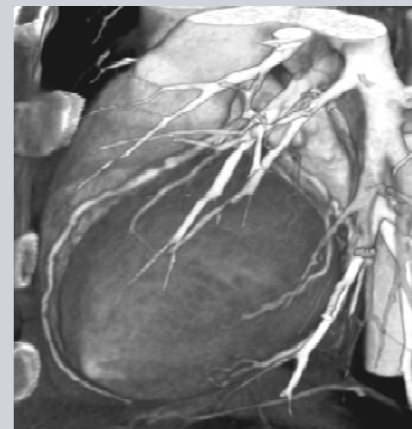
Pathologies



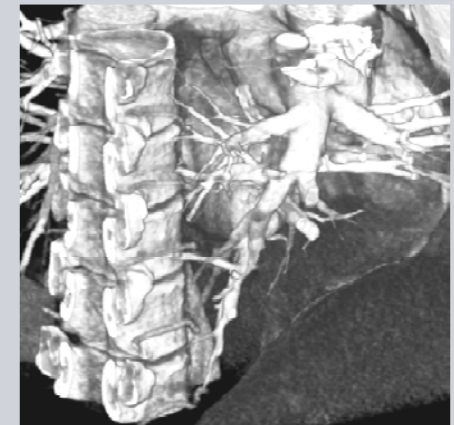
Varying Size



Curvatures

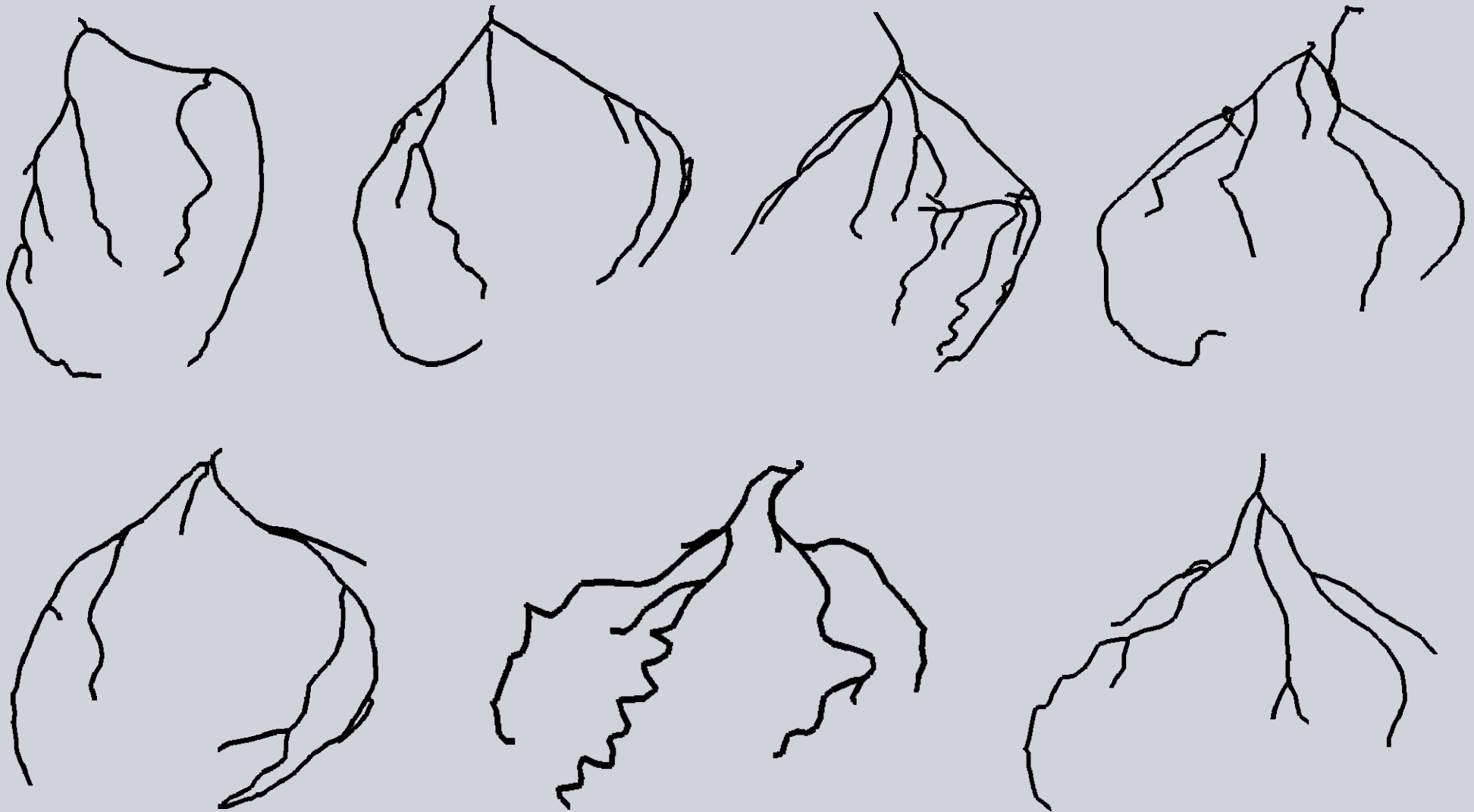


Complex Anatomy



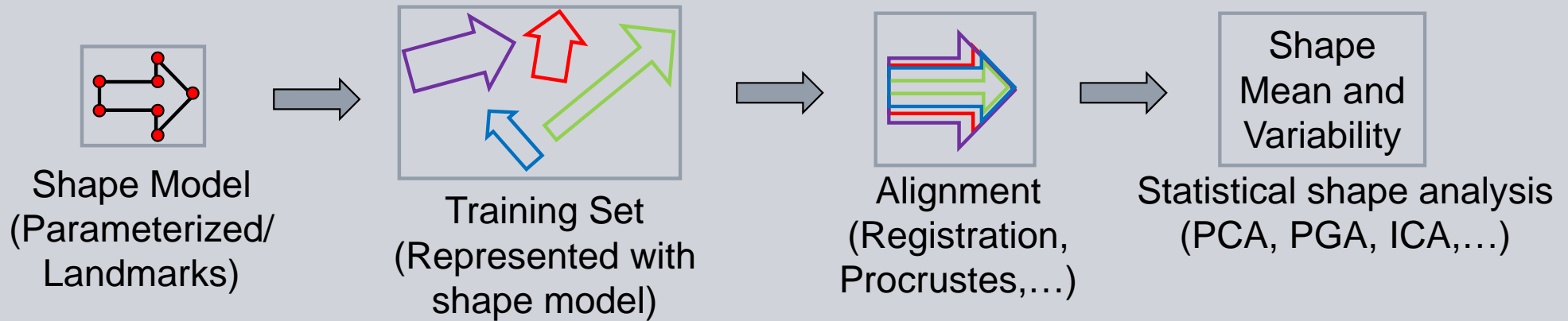
Bones

Motivation: Coronary Samples

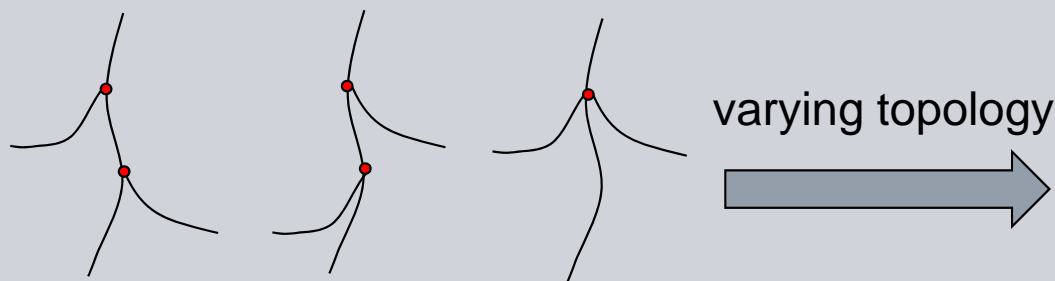


Background: Statistical Shape Models

How to Build Statistical shape models?

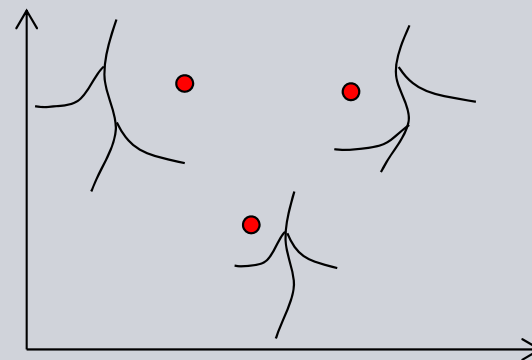


What about shape models for tree-like shapes?



Representation:
Topology + Branch Geometry

- Problem with creating a shape model
- Work in tree-like shape space



Background: Statistical Shape Models

Mean lies at the heart of statistical shape analysis

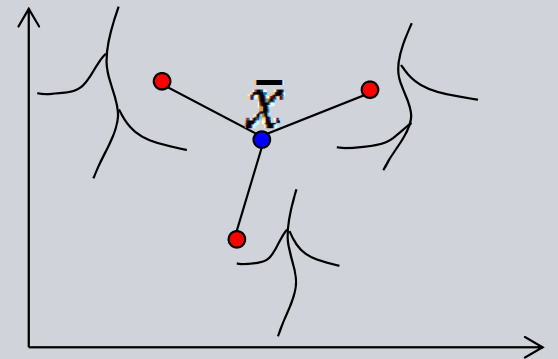
- best explains the entire training set
- allows for computing variability

How to compute mean of a set of tree-like shapes?

- no mathematical definition for trees
- but there is the classical definition of mean

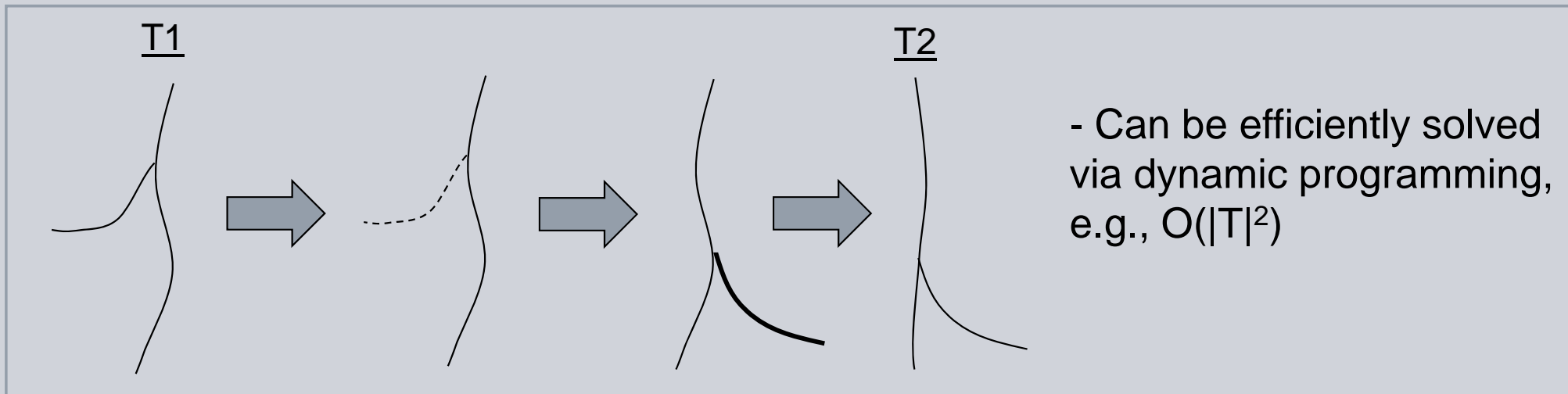
$$\bar{x} = \min_{x \in T} \sum_{x' \in T} d(x, x')^2$$

- we need unique geodesic between two trees

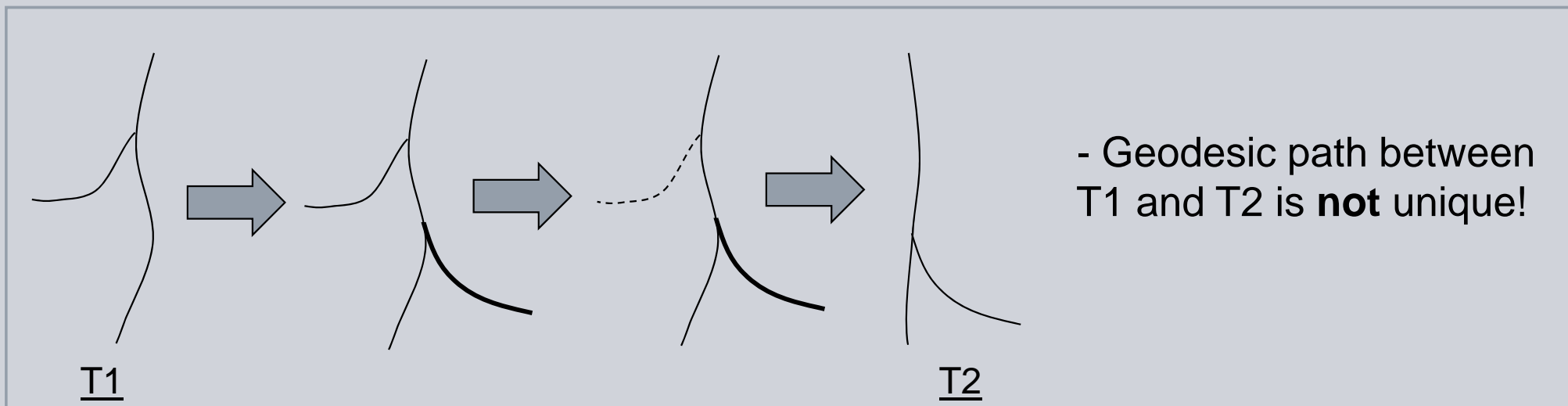


Background: Tree Edit Distance (TED)

- Match one tree to another by adding, removing or deforming branches with minimal cost



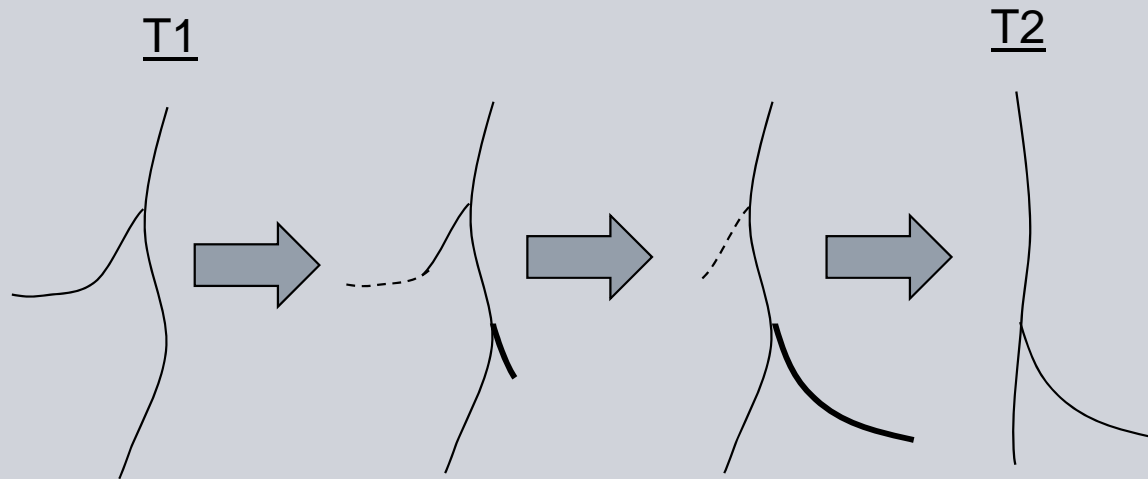
- Can be efficiently solved via dynamic programming, e.g., $O(|T|^2)$



- Geodesic path between T_1 and T_2 is **not** unique!

Background: Quotient Edit Distance

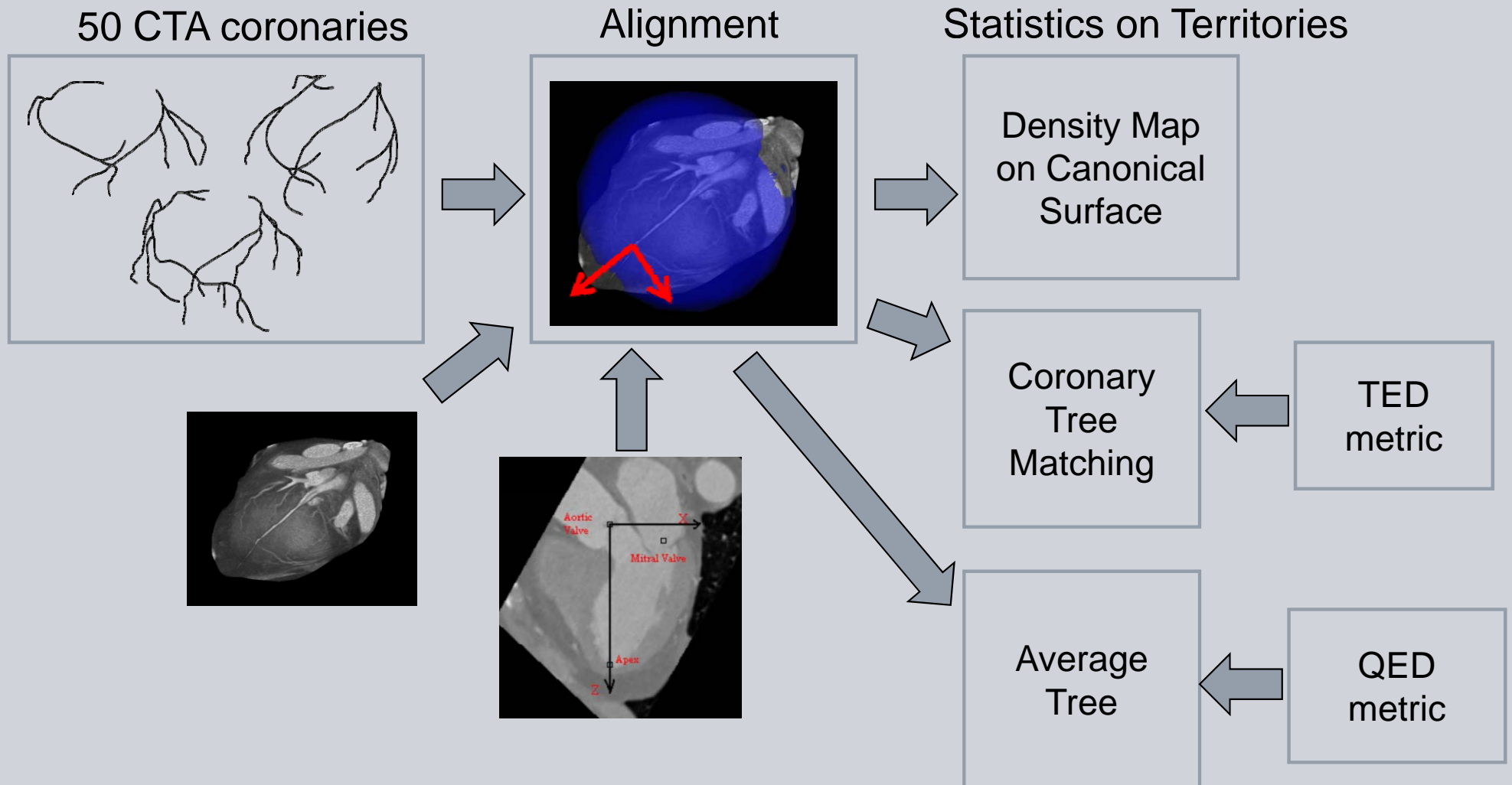
- allow for local branch deformations in addition to topology changes



- Geodesic path between T_1 and T_2 is unique with L_2 norm metric (Mathematically proven by Feragen, et. al.)

- Computationally expensive

Technical Approach



Technical Approach

TED metric

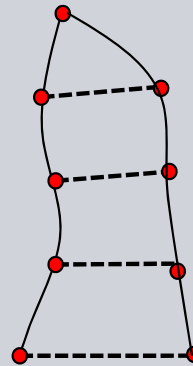
- Dynamic programming
- Rooted and ordered tree

QED metric

- An algorithm similar to Feragen's work
- Rooted and ordered tree

Branch Similarity

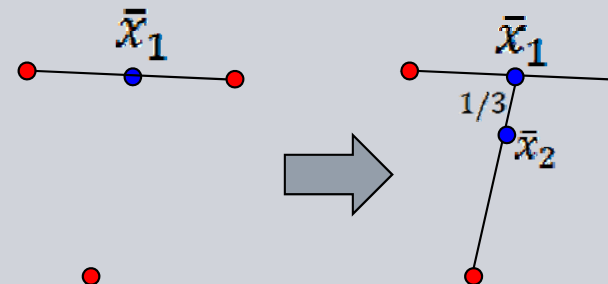
- Euclidian distance between uniformly sampled points



Average Tree Computation

- Weighted midpoint approximation

$$\bar{x} = \min_{x' \in T} \sum_{x \in T} d(x, x')^2$$



Deliverables

Build a research prototype that can

Minimum

- align coronary trees in a population
- compute mean coronary density map

Expected

- compute TED-based geodesic distance between two coronary trees
- compute QED-based geodesic distance between two coronary trees

Maximum

- match two coronary trees using TED
- compute average coronary tree in a population using QED
- assign a membership score to an unseen coronary tree using QED

Milestones

	Milestone	Planned Date
1	Alignment of coronary centerlines (MINIMUM)	March 4
2	Statistics on territories (MINIMUM)	March 11
3	Geodesic distance with TED algorithm (EXPECTED)	April 8
4	Geodesic distance with QED algorithm (EXPECTED)	April 29
5	Applications (MAXIMUM)	May 8

Milestone Validations	
1	Visualize coronary trees on the canonical surface
2	Visualize both coronary trees and density map on the canonical surface
3	Test on example trees with ground truth distance
4	Test on example trees with ground truth distance. Compare to TED.
5	Test on trees with known matching. Visually compare average tree to entire training set. Compute membership scores for training set

Dependencies

Data

- CTA datasets with coronary centerline annotations, heart pericardium models and key anatomical landmarks. *Resolved: Provided by Siemens*
- Example tree pairs with ground truth matching and distance. *Resolved: Possible to create a few examples by hand. Tools provided by Siemens*

Software

- Programming framework to build the prototype. Libraries for data loading / visualization / interactions and display of results. *Resolved: Will use Siemens' rapid prototyping platform (XIP). C++ as programming language.*
- TED solver. *Resolved: Dynamic programming pseudo codes available online*

Management Plan

- 15 hours work per week
- Weekly meetings with mentor located in Princeton, phone or in-person. **Scheduled**

Motivation

Background

Technical
Approach

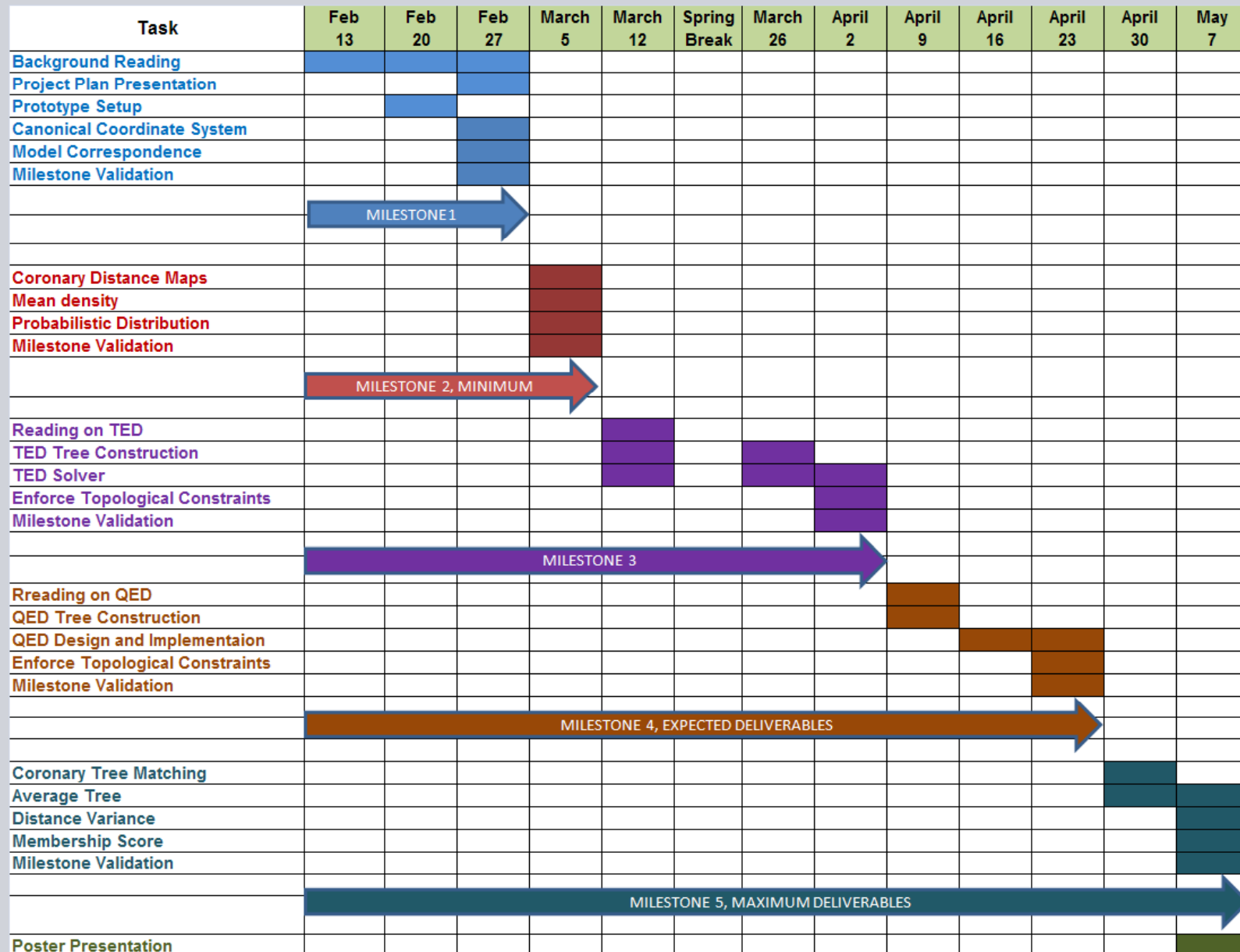
Deliverables

Milestones

Dependencies

Management

Project Timeline



References

- [1] Donald Lloyd-Jones, Robert J Adams, Todd M Brown, Mercedes Carnethon, Shifan Dai, Giovanni De Simone, T Bruce Ferguson, Earl Ford, Karen Furie, Cathleen Gillespie, and et al. Executive summary: heart disease and stroke statistics–2010 update: a report from the american heart association. *Circulation*, 121(7):188–197, 2010.
- [2] Philip Bille. A survey on tree edit distance and related problems. *Theor. Comput. Sci.*, 337:217–239, June 2005.
- [3] A. Feragen, F. Lauze, and M. Nielsen. Fundamental geodesic deformations in spaces of treelike shapes. In *Pattern Recognition (ICPR), 2010 20th International Conference on*, pages 2089 –2093, aug. 2010.
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- [5] Stephen R. Aylward, Julien Jomier, Christelle Vivert, Vincent LeDigarcher, and Elizabeth Bullitt. Spatial graphs for intra-cranial vascular network characterization, generation, and discrimination. In *MICCAI*, pages 59–66, 2005.
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- [8] Erik D. Demaine, Shay Mozes, Benjamin Rossman, and Oren Weimann. An optimal decomposition algorithm for tree edit distance. *ACM Transactions on Algorithms*, 6(1), 2009.