

Fast segmentation of medical images using multiphase active contours



Authors

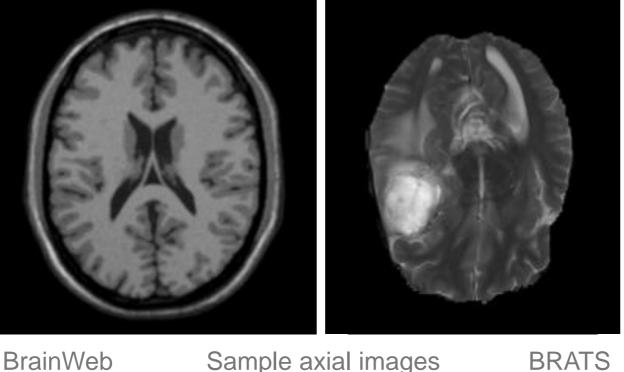
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MOTIVATION & OBJECTIVES

- Monomodal medical image segmentation
- A challenging task in Computer-Aided Diagnosis is to automatically partition images into tissue classes, organs or other biologically-relevant structures
- This requires segmentation methods with sound mathematical basis able to reliably deal with radiological and anatomopathological variability
- Candidate methods should be versatile, unsupervised, accurate, robust, fast and easy-to-parameterize



MATERIAL

BrainWeb Simulated Brain database

> Simulated 3D normal brain MRI exams (T1 / T2 / PD) with variable noise

BrainWeb

Sample axial images

METHODS

BRATS Brain Tumor Image Segmentation database

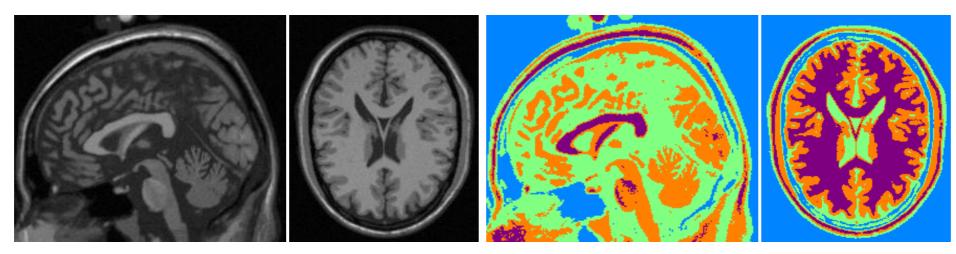
- > Real 3D pathological brain MRI exams (T1 / T1C / T2 / FLAIR) with expert-based ground-truth segmentation (tumor & edema)
- Assessment of globally convex fuzzy variational models based on total-variation priors
 - > Denoising: convex Rudin-Osher-Fatemi model
- Efficient primal / dual optimization schemes

RESULTS

User-friendly prototype software

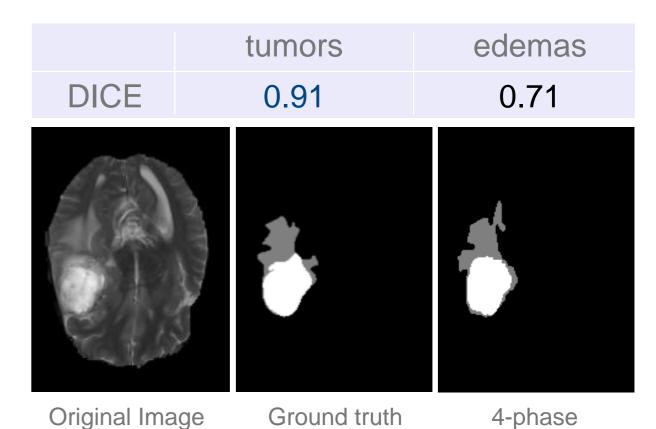
Original images

- > C++ template programming / Qt GUI / VTK visualization / OpenCL GPU acceleration
- Gray / white matter / CSF segmentation
 - > Best qualitative results obtained with 4-phase smooth 3D region competition
 - > Average processing time / exam ~1 min



4-phase segmentation

- > Segmentation: multiphase active contours with region competition models
 - piecewise constant / smooth [1]
 - global / local kernel statistics [2,3]
- Brain tumor + edema segmentation
 - > Preliminary accuracy assessment



CONCLUSION & PERSPECTIVES

- Powerful generic multi-object segmentation framework tunable to specific radiological / anatomopathological contexts via relevant region competition models
- Software platform with user-experience and computational performances compatible with clinical routine practice

Extensive experimentation is needed to further refine and assess the brain tumor segmentation scheme

[1] X. Bresson, S. Esedog lu, et al. (2007). Fast global minimization of the active contour/snake model. J. Mathematical Imaging & Vision, 28 : 151-157

- [2] B. Mory, R. Ardon (2007). Fuzzy region competition: a convex two-phase segmentation framework. In SSVM '07 : 214-226
- [3] B. Mory, R. Ardon, J. Thiran (2007). Variational segmentation using fuzzy region competition and local non-parametric probability density functions. In ICCV '07 : 1-8

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segmentation