

X-Ray Based Real Time Imaging Verification

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Why Real-Time Imaging Verification?

- Patient intra-fraction motion body motion, breathing change
- > Uncertainties in localizing moving targets, such as lung and liver tumor
- > Critical for hypo-fractionated treatment
 - Tight PTV margin
 - Long treatment time
 - High fractional dose

Potentials for Real-Time Imaging

- > Reduce treatment error and PTV margin
 - Pre-treatment imaging verification
 - During-treatment imaging verification
 - Gated treatment
 - Target tracking

X-ray based Verification Techniques

- > Single source: kV, MV
- > Multiple sources: dual kV, kV/MV
- > Gantry mounted: Linac gantry kV, MV
- > Room mounted: dual kV
- > Mobile: CT on-rail, C-arm

Single Source X-ray Imaging – kV Fluoro

- > Real-time imaging with a gantry mounted imager
 - kV x-ray source





Fluoro imaging

- kV beam: 60-120 kVp, 100mA (frame rate of 15 fps)
- Imager matrix size: 1024*768 (pixel size: 0.388mm)
- Additional imaging dose to patient

Single Source X-ray Imaging – MV Cine

> Cine MV imaging with treatment beam





- Frame rate: ~10 fps
- Imager matrix size: 1024*768 (pixel size: 0.392mm)
- MV treatment beam, no extra imaging dose
- · Reduced soft tissue contrast compared to kV fluoro

Single Source X-ray Imaging - Gating

> Gated SBRT lung treatment:



Multi-source X-ray Imaging – Dual kV



Brainlab ExacTrac

Two oblique kV imaging beams

- Source-iso = 2.24m, sourcedetector=3.62m. Flat panel detector of 20cmx20cm, 0.4mm resolution
- 3D-2D rigid registration to determine the 3 rotations and 3 translations. 6D couch to correct for the misalignment
- Real time verification achieved by external marker monitoring and snap kV verification

Multi-source X-ray Imaging - Cyberknife



Two orthogonal kV x-ray sources and detectors External LED markers monitoring (25-40Hz). Correlation model (CM) built between external signal and internal tumor motion. Tracking based on external signal to minimize the imaging dose. X-ray images taken per beam basis. Model automatically updated based on new projections.

Multi-source X-ray Imaging - Cyberknife

> Markerless: Xsight, localization based on soft tissue or bony structure

Lung tumor >1.5cm, surrounded by air



Multi-source X-ray Imaging - Cyberknife

> Marker based: Synchrony, 3-5 fiducial markers



Liver SBRT imaging and tracking

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Multi-source X-ray Imaging - Vero

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Vero system by Brainlab and Mitsubishi

Heavy Industry

 Two orthogonal kV imaging systems at 45deg from MV beam axis, temporal resolution 15fps.

- EPID for MV portal imaging
- Infra-red camera for external monitoring
- Marker based tracking (marker of 0.75 mm diameter and 1-2 cm length)

Multi-source X-ray Imaging - Vero



Vero system by Brainlab and Mitsubishi Heavy Industry

Before treatment, 20-40 s repeated xrays and IR external surrogate positions are acquired simultaneously at frame rates of 11 and 50 fps to build correlation model. Tracking is guided by external IR signal. Orthogonal kV imaging acquired every 1-2s to verify and rebuild the correlation model. MV imaging to verify beam position to determine tracking error.

Emerging Imaging Technique - DTS



Emerging Imaging Technique - DTS



Orthogonal-view DTS provides much better volumetric information than single-view DTS, ~1mm accuracy

Emerging Imaging Technique - Fluoro CBCT

Principle: deform prior image to obtain on-board images $CBCT_{new} = Deform(D, CT_{prior})$





Emerging Imaging Technique – Limited Angle Intrafraction Verification (LIVE) system



Emerging Imaging Technique – LIVE

Concurrent kV-MV imaging during arc treatment using Truebeam Research Mode.



Emerging Imaging Technique – LIVE LIVE Ground-truth Conference of the second second



Summary

- Real time imaging provides inter- and intra-fraction verification, which reduces the treatment error and provides basis for target tracking.
- Fast robust image analysis technique is critical for target localization in real time imaging.
- External surrogate monitoring is combined with x-ray imaging to minimize the imaging dose during real time verification. Patient breathing irregularities affect the correlation model.
- Emerging technologies, such as DTS, fluoro CBCT and LIVE, can potentially provide fast volumetric images for 4D target verification.

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