Computer-aided diagnosis of subtle signs of breast cancer: Architectural distortion in prior mammograms

#### Rangaraj M. Rangayyan

Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering University of Calgary, Calgary, Alberta, CANADA





School of Engineering

DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRICAL AND COMPUTER ENGINEERING



# Mammography



Signs of Breast Cancer:Masses

- Calcifications
- Bilateral asymmetry
- Architectural distortion (often missed)



### Masses

- Breast cancer causes a desmoplastic reaction in breast tissue
- A mass is observed as a bright, hyperdense object





# Calcification



# Deposits of calcium in breast tissue





# **Bilateral asymmetry**



Differences in the overall density distribution in the two breasts



# Computer-aided diagnosis

- Increased number of cancers detected
- Increased early-stage malignancies detected
- Increased recall rate
- Missed cases of architectural distortion



# Architectural distortion

- Third most common mammographic sign of nonpalpable breast cancer
- The normal architecture of the breast is distorted
- No definite mass visible
- Spiculations radiating from a point
- Focal retraction or distortion at the edge of the parenchyma





### Architectural distortion



spiculated

focal retraction

incipient mass



# Normal vs architectural distortion





# Normal vs architectural distortion





# Initial algorithm for detection of architectural distortion

- 1. Extract the orientation field
- 2. Filter and downsample the orientation field
- 3. Analyze orientation field using phase portraits
- 4. Postprocess the phase portrait maps
- 5. Detect sites of architectural distortion



# Gabor filter

$$g(x, y) = \frac{1}{2\pi\sigma_x \sigma_y} \exp\left[-\frac{1}{2}\left(\frac{x^2}{\sigma_x^2} + \frac{y^2}{\sigma_y^2}\right)\right] \cos(2\pi f x)$$

#### **Design parameters**

Gabor parameters

- line thickness  $\boldsymbol{\tau}$
- elongation *l*
- orientation  $\boldsymbol{\theta}$

$$f = \frac{1}{\tau}; \qquad \sigma_x = \frac{\tau}{2\sqrt{2\ln 2}}$$
$$\sigma_y = l\sigma_x; \qquad \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \cos\theta & -\sin\theta \\ \sin\theta & \cos\theta \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x' \\ y' \end{bmatrix}$$



# Design of Gabor filters





# Example of Gabor filtering



*Log-magnitude Fourier spectrum*  Inverted Y channel of retinal fundus image Magnitude response of a single Gabor filter:  $\tau = 8, l = 2.9, \theta = 45^{\circ}$ 



# Extracting the orientation field

#### Compute the texture orientation (angle) at each pixel





# Phase portraits

 $\vec{\mathbf{v}}(x, y) = \begin{pmatrix} v_x \\ v_y \end{pmatrix} = \mathbf{A} \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix} + \mathbf{b}$ 





# Texture analysis using phase portraits

#### Fit phase portrait model to the analysis window



*Nonlinear least squares optimization* 



 $\mathbf{A} = \begin{bmatrix} 1.1 & 0.3 \\ -0.2 & 1.7 \end{bmatrix}$ 

$$\mathbf{b} = \begin{bmatrix} -4.8\\ -7.9 \end{bmatrix}$$



Texture analysis using phase portraits

# Cast a vote at the fixed point = $A^{-1} b$ in the corresponding phase portrait map





# Detection of architectural distortion





# Initial results of detection



 Test dataset: 19 mammograms with architectural distortion (MIAS database)

□ Sensitivity: 84%

□ 18 false positives per image!



# Reduction of false positives





# Rejection of confounding structures

Confounding structures include

- \* Edges of vessels
- Intersections of vessels
- \* Edge of the pectoral muscle
- \* Edge of the fibroglandular disk

"Curvilinear Structures"



## Nonmaximal suppression



ROI with a vessel



*Gabor magnitude output* 



*Output of nonmaximal suppression (NMS)* 



# Rejection of confounding CLS

Output of NMS



#### CLS Retained



Angle from the orientation field and direction perpendicular to the gradient vector differ by < 30°



# Improved detection of sites of architectural distortion



Node map (without CLS analysis)



Node map (with CLS analysis)



## Free-response ROC analysis



# Effect of condition number of matrix *A* on the orientation field

Example	Matrix A	Eigenvalues	Angle between principal axes	Condition number	Orientation field
А	$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 3 \end{bmatrix}$	$\lambda_1 = 1$ $\lambda_2 = 3$	90°	3	
В	$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 7.46 \\ 0 & 3 \end{bmatrix}$	$\lambda_1 = 1$ $\lambda_2 = 3$	15°	21.85	
С	$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 20 \end{bmatrix}$	$egin{aligned} &\lambda_1 = 1 \ &\lambda_2 = 20 \end{aligned}$	90°	20	





- 19 cases of architectural distortion
- 41 normal control mammograms (MIAS)
- Symmetric matrix A: node and saddle only
- Condition number of A > 3: reject result
- Sensitivity: 84% at 4.5 false positives/image
- Sensitivity: 95% at 9.9 false positives/image



# Prior mammograms



Detection mammogram 1997



Prior mammogram 1996



# Prior mammograms



Detection mammogram 1997



Prior mammogram 1996



# Prior mammograms



Detection mammogram 1997



Prior mammogram 1996



### Interval cancer

 Breast cancer detected outside the screening program in the interval between scheduled screening sessions

\* "Diagnostic mammograms" not available





- 106 prior mammographic images of 56 individuals diagnosed with breast cancer (interval-cancer cases)
- Time interval between prior and detection (33 cases) average: 15 months, standard deviation: 7 months minimum: 1 month, maximum: 24 months
- ✤ 52 mammographic images of 13 normal individuals
- Normal control cases selected represent the penultimate screening visits at the time of preparation of the database



# Interval cancer: site of architectural distortion



Mammogram



Gabor Magnitude



# Interval cancer: site of architectural distortion





# Site of architectural distortion



Mammogram







Gabor magnitude



Node map



### Interval cancer: potential sites of architectural distortion





Automatically detected ROIs

Node map



## Examples of detected ROIs

#### *True-positive*



#### False-positive





# Automatically detected ROIs

Data Set	No. of Images	No. of ROIs 128 x 128 pixels at 200 µm/pixel	No. of True- Positive ROIs	No. of False- Positive ROIs
Prior mammograms of 56 interval-cancer cases	106	2821	301	2520
Penultimate mammograms of 13 normal cases	52	1403	0	1403
Total	158	4224	301	3923



## Feature extraction from ROIs



### Fractal and spectral analysis





# Laws' texture energy measures

Operators of length five pixels may be generated by convolving the basic L3, E3, and S3 operators:

$$>L5 = L3 * L3 = [1 4 6 4 1]$$
(local average)  

$$>E5 = L3 * E3 = [-1 -2 0 2 1]$$
(edges)  

$$>S5 = -E3 * E3 = [-1 0 2 0 -1]$$
(spots)  

$$>R5 = -S3 * S3 = [1 -4 6 -4 1]$$
(ripples)  

$$>W5 = -E3 * S3 = [-1 2 0 -2 1]$$
(waves)

> 
$$L5L5 = L5^{T}L5$$
  
>  $W5W5 = W5^{T}W5$   
>  $R5R5 = R5^{T}R5$  etc



### Laws' texture energy

Sum of the absolute values in the filtered images in a 15×15 window



L5L5







W5W5



*E5E5* 



*R5R5* 



## Geometrical transformation for Laws' feature extraction





### Analysis of angular spread: True-positive ROI



Frequency domain *Gabor magnitude*  *Gabor orientation* 

Coherence

Orientation strength



### Analysis of angular spread: False-positive ROI



Frequency domain *Gabor magnitude*  *Gabor orientation* 

Coherence

Orientation strength



### Results with selected features

Classifiers	AUC using the selected features with stepwise logistic regression	
FLDA (Leave-one-ROI-out)	0.75	
Bayesian (Leave-one-ROI-out)	0.76	
SLFF-NN (Single-layer feed forward: tangent-sigmoid)	0.78	
SLFF-NN*(Single-layer feed forward: tangent-sigmoid)	<b>0.78</b> ± 0.02	

\* Two-fold random subsampling, repeated 100 times



## Free-response ROC

Sensitivity

80% at 5.8 FP/image 90% at 8.1 FP/image

using features selected with stepwise logistic regression, the Bayesian classifier, and the leave-oneimage out method





## Bayesian ranking of ROIs: unsuccessful case





# Bayesian ranking of ROIs: successful detection





### Geometrical analysis of spicules and Gabor angle response

Index of convergence of spicules

ICS = 
$$\sum_{i=1}^{P} \sum_{j=1}^{Q} M(i,j) |\cos[\theta(i,j) - \alpha(i,j)]|$$

 $P \times Q$ : size of the ROI  $\theta(i, j)$ : Gabor angle response within the range [-89°, 90°] M(i, j): Gabor magnitude response  $\alpha(i, j)$ : angle of a pixel with respect to the horizontal toward the center of ROI, in the range [-89°, 90°]



# Index of convergence of spicules

ICS quantifies the degree of alignment of each pixel toward the center of the ROI weighted by the Gabor magnitude response





## FROC analysis

Sensitivity 80% 5.3 FP/patient

90% 6.3 FP/patient





### Expected loci of breast tissue





#### Landmarking of mammograms: breast boundary, pectoral muscle, nipple



Second- and fifth-order polynomials fitted to parts of breast boundary <sup>55</sup>



# Derivation of expected loci of breast tissue: interpolation







Number of points in curve = M

 $L_i = \bot$  length between two curves at the *i*-th point

 $L_{max} = max(L_i)$ 

Number of curves =  $N = L_{max} + 1$ 

Distance at i-th point =  $L_i/L_{max}$ =  $L_i/(N-1)$ 

*i-th point of n-th curve:* 

$$x_i(n) = x_i(1) - [x_i(1) - x_i(N_2)] \left(\frac{n-1}{N_2 - 1}\right)$$
$$y_i(n) = y_i(1) - [y_i(1) - y_i(N_2)] \left(\frac{n-1}{N_2 - 1}\right)$$



# Divergence with respect to the expected loci of breast tissue

$$\gamma(i,j) = \frac{\sum_{m=1}^{L} \sum_{n=1}^{L} |M(m,n) \cos[\theta(m,n) - \phi(i,j)]|}{\sum_{m=1}^{L} \sum_{n=1}^{L} M(m,n)}$$

*M:* Gabor magnitude response *ə:* Gabor angle response *\$\phi\$*: expected orientation of breast tissue *L:* 25 pixels at 200 µm/pixel
180 Gabor filters used over [-90, 90] degrees

$$D(i,j) = 1 - \gamma(i,j)$$



# Orientation field of breast tissue obtained using Gabor filters



Original image

Gabor magnitude

Gabor angle



# Divergence with respect to the expected loci of breast tissue



Original image

Divergence map

Thresholded map 60



# Automatically detected regions of interest



ROC: AUC = 0.61

FROC: Sensitivity = 80% at 9.1 FP/patient



# Combination of 86 features

- □ Geometrical features of spicules: 12
- Haralick's and Laws' texture features, fractal dimension: 25
- □ Angular spread, entropy: 15
- □ Haralick's measures with angle cooccurrence matrices: 28
- □ Statistical measures of angular dispersion and correlation: 6
- □ Feature selection with stepwise logistic regression
- Bayesian classifier with leave-one-patient-out validation:
   80% sensitivity at 3.7 FP/patient



## Reduction of false positives





### Reduction of false positives





### Conclusion

"Our methods can detect early signs of breast cancer 15 months ahead of the time of clinical diagnosis with a sensitivity of 80% with fewer than 4 false positives per patient"

\* Future work:

Detection of sites of architectural distortion at higher sensitivity and lower false-positive rates

Application to direct digital mammograms and breast tomosynthesis images



# Thank You!

- Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council (NSERC) of Canada
- Indian Institute of Technology Kharagpur
- Shastri Indo-Canadian Institute
- University of Calgary International Grants Committee
- Department of Information Technology,
   Government of India
- My collaborators and students:

Dr. J.E.L. Desautels, N. Mudigonda, H. Alto, F.J. Ayres, S. Banik, S. Prajna, J. Chakraborty, Dr. S. Mukhopadhyay http://people.ucalgary.ca/~ranga/