Patient Motion Compensation for Photogrammetric Registration

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Abstract: Photogrammetry has evolved as a non-invasive alternative for various medical applications, including coregistration of the patient at the time of a surgical operation with pre-surgically acquired data as well as surgical instruments. In this case body surface position regularly has to be determined in a global co-ordinate system with high accuracy. In this paper, we treat this task for multi-view monocular imagery acquiring both body surface as well as e.g. reference markers. To fulfill the high accuracy requirements the patient is not supposed to move while images are taken. An approach towards relaxing this demanding situation is to measure small movements of the patient, e.g. with help of an electromagnetic device, and to compensate for the measured motion prior to body surface triangulation. We present two approaches for motion compensation: disparity shift compensation, and moving cameras compensation - both capable of achieving patient registration qualitatively equivalent to motion-free registration.

1 INTRODUCTION

In surgical applications precise positioning of a navigation instrument is essential to carry out a successful surgery. In some cases, such as nasal surgery, noninvasive methods are used to establish a registration between pre-surgical data such as computed tomography (CT) data and the patient's surface. In this work, photogrammetric reconstruction is used for this purpose. Besides the co-ordinate systems of photogrammetric surface reconstruction and pre-surgical data, the co-ordinate system of the navigated instrumentation is of importance in this setting. Usually, the latter is defined by electromagnetic field emitter. The reference between the co-ordinate system of a photogrammetric reconstruction and the pre-surgical co-ordinate system is established via the patient's body surface, e.g. the facial surface, which is available in both photogrammetric imagery as well as pre-surgical data. The reference from photogrammetric co-ordinates towards electromagnetic co-ordinate system of the navigation device can be established via visible reference markers that can both be photogrammetrically reconstructed as well as electromagnetically tracked. If the photogrammetric imagery is acquired by a monocular camera, a pre-requisite for a successful patient co-registration is a static (motionless) arrangement of patient surface and reference marker ensemble while images are taken. This is potentially difficult for the

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patient to achieve, in particular if required to sit without anesthesia e.g. in a dental chair being less stable than lying with anesthesia on a surgical table. Then measuring patient motion that occurs in-between image shots is a reasonable idea to compensate for motion. This is particularly appropriate, if the patient's body is already tracked electromagnetically in order to allow patient motion after co-registration to presurgical data has been established.



Figure 1: A seated patient next to a mapper frame carrying an ensemble of reference markers. The electromagnetic patient localizer, a device which provides position and orientation in electromagnetic co-ordinate system, on the forehead (in green) is used to track the head motion relative to the mapper frame while several photogrammetric images are acquired.

This setting is treated in this paper: monocular "visual structure-from-motion" (VSfM) surface reconstruction is done for both, patient's body surface as well as an ensemble of reference markers located on a mapper frame next to the patient (Fig. 1). While the patient may unwillingly conduct small motions w.r.t. the marker ensemble, the required high precision of patient co-registration prohibits such motion. Motion is, therefore, compensated for by measuring patient's movement electromagnetically and calculating its influence on stereoscopic matching.

In order to allow navigated surgery, the surgical navigation system needs to co-register the patient's facial surface at the time of the operation with presurgically acquired data. The patient's facial surface is acquired by stereo photogrammetry in co-ordinates of the mapper frame (shown in Fig. 1, bearing the reference markers). The facial surface is also contained in the 3D pre-surgical data. It is matched with the photogrammetric facial surface. The matching of the two surfaces is the measurement providing the required co-registration information.

In an online data acquisition the quality of coregistration can be tested using an electromagnetic touch-based pointer device on the patient's facial surface as long as he/she remains in the operational setting with the electromagnetic forehead patient localizer unchanged (Fig. 1). During a check the localizer's position is superimposed to the pre-surgical face surface on the display. In other words, the touch-pointer device coordinates are transformed to the pre-surgical surface from electromagnetic touchpointer localizer co-ordinate system via electromagnetic field emitter, electromagnetic mapper-frame localizer, marker-based optical mapper frame definition, photogrammetric facial surface reconstruction, and facial surface matching solution towards the coordinate system of the pre-surgical data. So a concatenated transformation involving six coordinate systems is conducted. The procedure includes calibration data of different devices, e.g. calibration data of the touchpointer device, or of the mapper frame.

After photogrammetric co-registration with the pre-surgical data has been conducted, the continued online measurements of the patient localizer allow movements of the patient during the operation without loosing reference between pre-surgical and actual facial surface. The difference between patient localizer during photogrammetric acquisition and patient localizer at any other time (e.g. at time of check with the electromagnetic touch-based pointer) is taken into account by the transformation difference between current patient localizer coordinate system and patient localizer coordinate system at the time of photogrammetric image acquisition.

We focus on the elimination of patient motion effects that occur in-between the acquisitions of the first and the subsequent monocular images used for photogrammetric surface reconstruction. Compensation of these motions is both essential for geometrically accurate "visual structure from motion" reconstruction as well as uncommon in standard processing chains, which is why it is subject of this paper.

The rest of the paper in organised as follows: In the next section, some of the related previous works are discussed along with an outline of how our approach is different to them. In Section 3, the two approaches to motion compensation, and the impact of no compensation are discussed. Experimental findings on phantom and real patient are presented in Section 4. Finally, in Section 5 the paper is concluded.

2 RELATED WORK

The inverse problem of 3D surface reconstruction from multiple images is fundamental in computer vision. Solutions to this VSfM task can be found in literature as early as in the 1980's (Ullman, 1979; Grimson, 1981). Initially, the field was dominated by sparse feature-based reconstruction (Hartley and Zisserman, 2003). Over the years, with the surge in computational resources, dense 3D reconstruction was introduced (Furukawa and Ponce, 2009), and demonstrated (Newcombe et al., 2015). Dense surface reconstruction from multiple images forms the backbone for various modern computer vision applications.

The improvements in the solution of the inverse 3D problem also led to its application in medical domain. In medicine, it is widely used as low-cost non-invasive alternative for accurate and external measurements. Recently, to investigate cranial deformation in infants, Barbero-García et al. (2019) proposed use of smartphone-based photogrammetric 3D head modelling. A video stream was recorded so as to obtain 200-300 images, which were then used to create a 3D head model. The accuracy of the photogrammetric model was comparable to a radiological cranial 3D model. A survey by Ey-Chmielewska et al. (2015) highlights the application of photogrammetry in screening tests of spinal curvature, ophthalmology, dermatology, dentistry and orthodontics.

In the medical field, application of photogrammetry is not restricted to external measurements and is often used in planning and monitoring of surgeries. This involves registration of available pre-surgical 3D data with online-acquired data. Co-registration before and during treatment is generally achieved by imagebased techniques. Registration of patient's face surface with pre-surgical data was utilized in navigated surgery (Hellwich et al., 2016). For accurate localization of EEG electrodes, photogrammetry-based head digitization was adopted in Clausner et al. (2017). Salazar-Gamarra et al. (2016) used mobile-phone images to obtain 3D model for facial prosthesis. In these applications, to reduce motion distortion, the patient was asked to stay still.

To simplify the solution, majority of applications of VSfM in the medical domain assume that the scene is static, i.e. there is no motion of the scene objects during image acquisition. However, for realpatient (without anesthesia) this assumption doesn't hold true. Even if the patient is asked to stay still, there are minor rigid motions which can substantially be enlarged by the camera baseline¹ to distance ratio. If small patient motions are occurring, the scene is not static any more, but contains one or more independently moving objects, which need to be treated by the VSfM method explicitly.

Some of the early works by Fitzgibbon and Zisserman (2000), tried to recover structure and motion from image sequences with several independently moving objects. An extension of static-scene bundle adjustment was presented which allowed multiple motions to contribute to the estimation of camera parameters. Other earlier works used a two stage divide-and-conquer approach, by first segmenting the features corresponding to individual objects, such that the problem is decomposed into several static VSfM problems. Tola et al. (2005) used a similar approach by performing segmentation using epipolar constraint. Finally, the 3D reconstructions of independently moving objects were performed using standard techniques. To simplify the solution, their method assumed motions in one direction, with sufficiently large baseline between the first and the last frame. Based on a similar paradigm, Ozden et al. (2010) tried to bridge the gap between mathematical foundations of the problem and realistic application. Their method considers a realistic scenario where moving objects can enter or leave the field of view, merge into static objects or split off from background. These approaches were mainly concerned with determining the general 3D structure and not the detailed shapes of objects.

In our experiment, we address photogrammetric acquisition of two rigid independently moving objects. The mapper frame is fixed and the patient head (even though the patient is asked to stay still) has relative rigid motions. To track these motions precisely, mapper frame and patient head are placed in an electromagnetic field and electromagnetic localizers are mounted on both of them. These localizers help to track relative head motions in-between acquisitions of different images. For accurate reconstruction and positioning of patient facial surface relative to the mapper frame, this work tries to reduce the impact of head motion on 3D stereo reconstruction by compensating motion occurring in-between image acquisitions making use of electromagnetic measurements.

3 METHODOLOGY

The co-ordinate system of the photogrammetric reconstruction is defined by the reference markers on the surface of the mapper frame. The task of photogrammetry is the determination of the position of the facial surface relative to the mapper frame, i.e. in the coordinate system of the reference markers, with high accuracy. The method to be used is a VSfM approach based on two or three monocular images taken with the same camera. Between the image acquisitions the camera has to be moved to viewpoints separated by suitable baseline lengths. This necessarily requires short time intervals passing between image acquisitions. Meanwhile the patient's head may have moved. Subsequently, we consider the head pose of the first image acquisition as the reference position. The motions from this reference position to the head's poses of the other image acquisitions is to be eliminated.



Figure 2: Graphical illustration of "no motion" and "motion" in-between image acquisitions, without any motion compensation.

Visually, we demonstrate the impact of motion inbetween image acquisitions with help of Figure 2. For ease of illustration, head side-view is used and reference mapper frame (which is fixed as in Figure 1) is not shown. In Figure 2 (a) the 3D face points P_A and P_B are imaged from first camera location CM₀ and second camera location CM₁. In this case, there is no motion in-between the image acquisitions and rays a_0 , a_1 for camera CM₀, CM₁, respectively, reconstruct

¹in-between cameras distance

point P_A correctly; similarly rays b_0 , b_1 reconstruct point P_B . If there is some motion in between the image acquisitions, the face would have been moved to a new position (shown in blue shade in Figure 2 (b)). Because of this motion, the two points would appear at relatively same but different positions. Rays from the two cameras would then intersect at points \tilde{P}_A and \tilde{P}_B significantly above the actual facial surface.

We implemented two methods to eliminate this motion effect. The first one considers the cameras to have their veridical positions and corrects for motion by shifting facial image points to image coordinates they would have had, if no motion had occurred. We call the method "disparity correction". The second method corrects for motion by computationally "moving" the cameras to positions and orientations from where they would have acquired the images they really acquired, however, if the head had not moved.

3.1 Object Motion Compensation by Disparity Correction

In this method, the disparity change an image point experiences due to the head's motion is to be estimated. This requires the 3D positions of the object points w.r.t. the cameras' poses to be known. Generally, object points can easily be determined by ray intersection ("triangulation"). However, as long as the object motion is not considered, point triangulation by ray intersection of homologous image points can only be approximately correct. Once such approximate 3D co-ordinates are computed, the motion's effect on image co-ordinates can be predicted and corrected for provided it is known.

As mentioned previously, in our setup object motion is measured with an electromagnetic localizer mounted on the facial surface. As markers on the surface of the mapper frame provide a reference coordinate system in which camera orientations can be computed, and as the mapper frame carries an electromagnetic localizer, the motion of the triangulated object point can be calculated in camera coordinates. Re-projection to the image provides motion-corrected image co-ordinates. Using the corrected image coordinate pair, 3D object space co-ordinates can be recomputed with higher accuracy. Within few iterations, image co-ordinate pairs, disparities and 3D space co-ordinates free from motion effects can be obtained.

In the preparatory computational steps², exterior orientations of the images are computed by e.g. spa-

tial resection using the markers on the mapper frame. Using the mapper frame localizer data, image orientations are computed in co-ordinates of the electromagnetic navigation system. Therefore, the motion effect on preliminary triangulated 3D co-ordinates can be computed from:

$$\tilde{\mathbf{X}} = \mathbf{H} \cdot \mathbf{X} \tag{1}$$

where **X** is the (approximate) 3D space point before, $\tilde{\mathbf{X}}$ is the 3D space point after the motion, and **H** is the homography describing the motion effect as:

$$\mathbf{H} = \mathbf{H}_i \cdot \mathbf{H}_0^{-1} \tag{2}$$

where \mathbf{H}_i corresponds to the position of head at the time of i^{th} image acquisition, with i = 0 being the index of the reference homography. Then the approximate 3D space point $\mathbf{\tilde{X}}$ is re-projected to the image. The difference of the re-projected and actual image points provides the motion disparity, which is then subtracted from the points image co-ordinates providing motion-compensated image co-ordinates. This is used for the next iteration's triangulation. Empirically it was observed that no more than four iterations of this procedure are necessary until convergence.

Unless the motion occurring in-between acquisitions is compensated, two pairs of rays (a_0, b_0) and (a_1, b_1) shown in Fig. 2 (b) would result in wrongly reconstructed 3D points \tilde{P}_A and \tilde{P}_B , respectively. Fig. 3 (a) shows the graphical illustration of the motion compensation with disparity shift. From the intersection of rays a_0 and a_1 (b_0 and b_1), motion disparity is computed and used to shift the image coordinates to the corrected position, such that the rays a_1 and b_1 are iteratively shifted to \overline{a}_1 and \overline{b}_1 , producing correct reconstructed points \overline{P}_A and \overline{P}_B , respectively.



(a) Motion compensation(b) Motion compensationby disparity correctionby moving camerasFigure 3: Motion compensation using the two proposed

Figure 3: Motion compensation using the two proposed methods.

²These steps are also necessary when patient coregistration is done without compensating inter-image patient motion.

3.2 Object Motion Compensation by Moving Cameras

According to the moving cameras approach the cameras are "imagined" to be fixed to the patient's facial surface, while they are not really so. Therefore, the exterior orientations of the images have to be changed in order to compensate for the actual motion of the facial surface. This is formulated for each camera's projection center C_i and rotation matrices R_i as

$$\tilde{\mathbf{C}}_i = \mathbf{H}_i \cdot \mathbf{C}_i \tag{3}$$

$$\tilde{\mathbf{R}}_i = \mathbf{R}_i \cdot \mathbf{R}_{\mathbf{H}_i}^{-1} \tag{4}$$

where $\tilde{\mathbf{C}}_i$ and $\tilde{\mathbf{R}}_i$ corresponds to the shifted projection center and rotation matrix, respectively, after compensating for the motion of the *i*th image acquisition w.r.t. the reference acquisition. $\mathbf{R}_{\mathbf{H}i}$ corresponds to the rotational component of \mathbf{H}_i . With the new exterior orientations $\tilde{\mathbf{C}}_i$ and $\tilde{\mathbf{R}}_i$, the correct facial points are triangulated.

Finally, the inverse of the motion adaptation applied to the reference camera needs to be applied to the triangulated points by transforming them using the electromagnetic reference homography \mathbf{H}_{0}^{-1} .

$$\mathbf{V} = \mathbf{H}_0^{-1} \cdot \tilde{\mathbf{V}} \tag{5}$$

where $\tilde{\mathbf{V}}$ is a 3D point in the co-ordinate system of the moved cameras and \mathbf{V} is the same point in coordinates defined by the mapper frame.

Fig. 3 explains moving camera motion compensation graphically. Relative to reference camera CM₀, the camera position CM₁ in Fig. 3 (b) is shifted to \overline{CM}_1 . Rays \overline{a}_1 and \overline{b}_1 from this corrected camera position intersect with their corresponding rays a_0 and b_0 to produce corrected points \overline{P}_A and \overline{P}_B , respectively.

3.3 Impact of Uncompensated Motion

When the two algorithms are applied to real data they produce significantly differing results. This is due to the fact that electromagnetic motion measurements are - like any measurements - subject to noise, and that individual noise components in a measurement could have large effect on results. This we want to explain and graphically demonstrate in this subsection.

Fig. 4 shows a case where no motion occurs, but the electromagnetic sensors - due to noise effects -"pretend" that some motion is present. Rays a_0 and a_1 cause image points in the CM₀ and CM₁ cameras, respectively. In case of the disparity shift approach (Fig. 4 (a)), the erroneous motion measurement wrongly informs that ray a_1 in CM₁ is coming from direction \hat{a}_1 which is where the visible point should be (shown in red shade), if the motion had occurred. Disparity correction adds the viewing difference between \hat{a}_1 and a_1 , not to \hat{a}_1 , but to the visible point generated by ray a_1 such that direction \overline{a}_1 is generated. Triangulation with rays a_0 and \overline{a}_1 then results in a wrongly reconstructed point \overline{P}_A far below the actual face surface.

In case of moving cameras approach (Fig. 4 (b)), the erroneous motion measurement transforms the camera CM₁ to the wrong position \overline{CM}_1 such that the original ray a_1 is at position \overline{a}_1 . Intersection of rays a_0 and \overline{a}_1 lead to the reconstructed point \overline{P}_A well above the patient surface. So while moving camera generates the point above the actual surface, the disparity correction generates the same point more deep into the actual surface. As there is noise in any (electromagnetic) measurement, this effect occurs also in presence of an actual facial motion - which is why on the same data both compensation methods give compensation results that do not precisely agree with each other while functioning correctly.



(a) no motion but compensation by disparity shift (b) no motion but compensation by moving cameras

Figure 4: Motion compensation for noisy motion measurement.

4 EXPERIMENTS AND EVALUATIONS

In this section, we evaluate the two discussed motion compensation algorithms. Any motion in-between the three image acquisitions has a direct influence on the reconstructed facial surface, which is then used for the photogrammetric co-registration. A poor reconstruction without any motion compensation would affect the photogrammetric co-registration. We try to quantize this influence based on the difference between a reference transformation and a photogrammetrically obtained transformation.

A reference co-registration was carefully obtained with non-photogrammetric tactile (i.e. touch-based)

measurements for real patient. For phantom face the reference could also be obtained by photogrammetry without moving the phantom in between image acquisitions. This reference transform is termed as \mathbf{H}_R . Its quality can be visually verified by an expert as sufficiently good based on electromagnetic pointer superimposition displayed on screen. This reference transform remains stable as long as the position of patient localizer on the patient's face remains fixed. Any photogrammetric co-registration transform \mathbf{H}_N obtained for the same mounting of patient localizer has to be equal to the reference transform \mathbf{H}_R .

The transformation difference $\delta \mathbf{H} = \mathbf{H}_R \times \mathbf{H}_N^{-1}$ is not an easily interpretable numeric measure. For instance, if the units in which coordinates are expressed is changed from *mm* to *cm* the weighting of rotation differences versus translation differences changes resulting in meaningless changes of the measure (i.e. the numbers in the transformation matrix). Therefore, a volume grid of n^3 points in the region of 3D space where the facial surface is approximately located is evaluated instead. This volume grid is transformed by δH , to obtain a new volume grid. Vectors are calculated as difference of new grid positions to the reference grid positions. The average length of these vectors is used as divergence measure for comparison. Lower divergence measure would mean that the photogrammetric transform \mathbf{H}_N is closer to reference transform \mathbf{H}_{R} .

4.1 Phantom Face

The first set of experiments was performed for a phantom face, with supervised motion in-between the three images. In these experiments, controlled motion was also verified with the head-mounted electromagnetic sensor's response. A non-metallic six degree of freedom stage was designed, mainly consisting of wood and plastic in order to avoid metal influencing the electromagnetic field of the navigation system. The bottom of the wooden box was equipped with a fixed plastic glass allowing a second plastic glass holding the phantom to slide smoothly on vertical plastic screws located close to its corners. The vertical screws allowed translation in z direction and rotations around x and y axes. The sliding plastic glass was held by four pairs of horizontal screws (one for each side) allowing translations in x and y and rotations around the z axis. The mapper frame was independently fixed on a tripod stand.

First a reference registration was performed without motion in-between image acquisitions, thereby obtaining \mathbf{H}_R . Without disturbing the patient localizer, systematic motions were applied on the phantom face between the three image acquisitions. Experiments were conducted to include independent translations in the three directions and rotations around the three axes. These motions were verified with the electromagnetic patient localizer and variations were observed to be in permissible limits. Table 1 shows the type and extent of motion applied for various cases of this experiment. The same motion was applied inbetween the first and second as well as in-between second and third image acquisition.

For this experiment, photogrammetrically obtained no-motion reference facial surface was compared against the photogrammetric surface of individual motion-compensation cases. Distance between the two surfaces encoded with color is included in Table 1 for different compensation schemes. The divergence measure with and without motion compensation was calculated for a 3D grid with n = 6 (shown below the colored surface plots). With the inclusion of motion compensation in the facial surface reconstruction, photogrammetric co-registration improves significantly. Deviation as large as 7.5 mm are reduced to 1.3 mm.

Handheld Phantom



Figure 5: Image of a handheld phantom, which is involuntary subjected to small movements.

To further observe the effectivity of motion compensation on real scenario, experiments were performed with the phantom face unstably held by hand (c.f. Fig. 5). This would allow the natural hand vibrating motions to influence the phantom position in-between the three image acquisitions. Table 2 shows three experiments performed in this series. To quantify the motion in-between image acquisitions, translation in the approximate nose position is measured. Case 3 in Table 2 shows that even for small motions, without any motion compensation the divergence could be very large. This large divergence is reduced to within 2 mm by proposed methods. A more comprehensive record of the actual motion of the phantom's facial

Table 1: Deviations remaining after different compensation algorithms for controlled motion of phantom in-between the three images. Distance encoded colored surface shows the registration quality of the individual case followed by divergence measure. Color scale on the top is in *mm*.



surface is shown in Table 3. These plots show the facial motion via grid points (approximately located around the facial surface) in between the image acquisitions. So the graph visualizes the motion that is to be compensated by the motion compensation approach.

4.2 Real Patient

Finally, evaluations were performed on real patients where the reference registration \mathbf{H}_R was obtained by touch-based tactile registration. This touchbased reference registration is compared against the photogrammetry-based registration \mathbf{H}_N . Table 4 lists the deviation of the compensation algorithms, when

Table 2: Deviations remaining after applying different compensation algorithms for handheld phantom. Motion inbetween image acquisition as measured by an approximate point near the patient's nose. Two motions for each case denote the translation in the nose in-between images 1 and 2 as well as images 2 and 3.

	Motion			Deviation [mm]		
	Translation [mm]			No Motion	Disparity Shift	Moving Camera
	x	У	z	Compensation	Compensation	Compensation
1	0.046	0.798	-0.354	3.828	2.148	2.145
	-0.165	0.073	-0.076			
2	0.214	0.645	-0.268	4.165	1.535	1.543
	0.234	0.423	-0.282			
3	-0.657	-1.129	0.656	54.668	1.970	1.987
	0.336	0.852	-0.349			

Table 3: In-between images motion shown as deviation of grid points approximated around patient's head for handheld phantom experiments of Table 2. The color bar on top shows the color coding (in *mm*) used as distance measure of these vectors.



used on real patients for three cases. A large deviation of 20 mm is compensated to surgical precision of within 3 mm. Motion in-between images as measured by an approximate point near the patients nose is also specified. Table 5 shows deviation of grid points (approximated around the patients head) in-between the image acquisitions.

5 CONCLUSION

With the advancement in photogrammetry, its use has been increasing in the medical fields. Imagebased surface reconstruction provides a non-invasive Table 4: Deviations remaining after different compensation algorithms for a real patient in three different cases. Motion in-between images as measured by an approximate point near the patient's nose is specified as translations inbetween images 1 and 2 as well as images 2 and 3.

Γ		Motion			Deviation [mm]			
Γ		Translation [mm]			No Motion	Disparity Shift	Moving Camera	
		х	у	z	Compensation	Compensation	Compensation	
1	1	-3.846	0.852	0.313	8.965	3.103	2.981	
	1	-3.320	1.892	0.948				
2	2	-8.235	4.537	2.942	20.191	1.686	1.774	
	-	-5.637	3.689	2.311				
3	2	-5.886	1.223	0.964	15.853	2.841	2.845	
	5	-4.434	2.483	1.538				

alternative for various medical applications. However, while surgical precision is required, VSfM photogrammetry can be affected even by small motions in between acquisitions of monocular images. In this work, we remedy the effect of motion in-between image acquisitions by compensating the measured motion. We introduced disparity correction and moving camera methods as the two techniques to compensate the motion in-between image acquisitions. Our experiments on phantom face and real patient show the robustness of the proposed techniques. Both proposed methods give similar results, moving cameras approach being preferred because of its non-iterative solution.

Table 5: In-between images motion shown as deviation of grid points for real patient data of Table 4. The color bar shows the color coding (in *mm*) used as distance measure of these vectors.



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