

# Uncertainty-aware Visualization in Medical Imaging – A Survey

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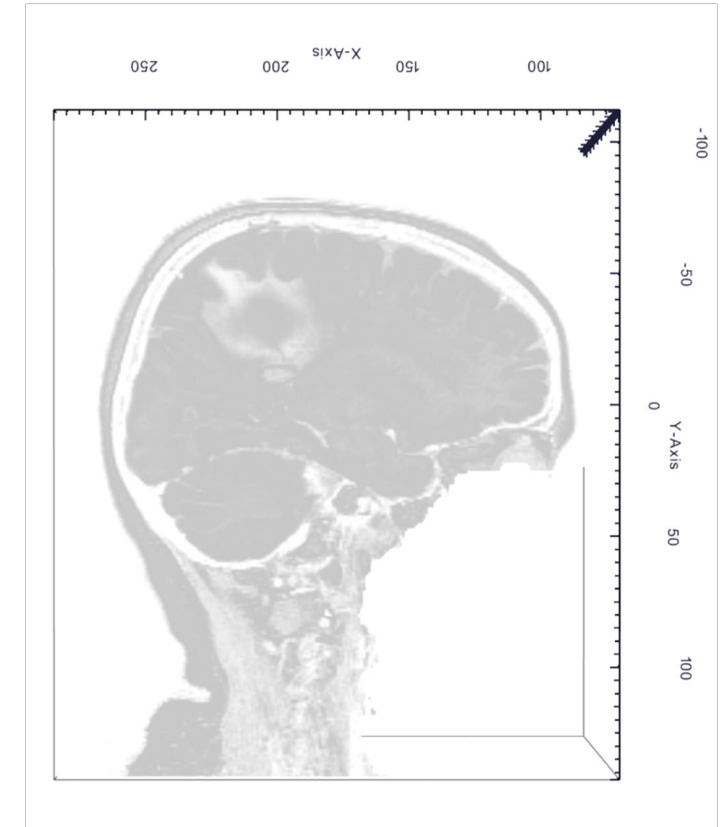
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# Why This survey?

- Medical Imaging:
  - Is a popular application of visualization
  - Provides unique and complicated data
  - Is affected by uncertainty in various manners



**Which uncertainty-aware visualization approaches exist that fit medical imaging?**

1. What is Medical Imaging?
2. Definition of Uncertainty
3. Types of Uncertainties in Medical Imaging
4. Requirements of uncertainty-aware Visualization in Medical Imaging
5. Paper Selection Criteria
6. State of the Art Analysis
7. Creation of Medical Imaging Pipelines
8. Open Problems

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# 1. What is Medical Imaging?

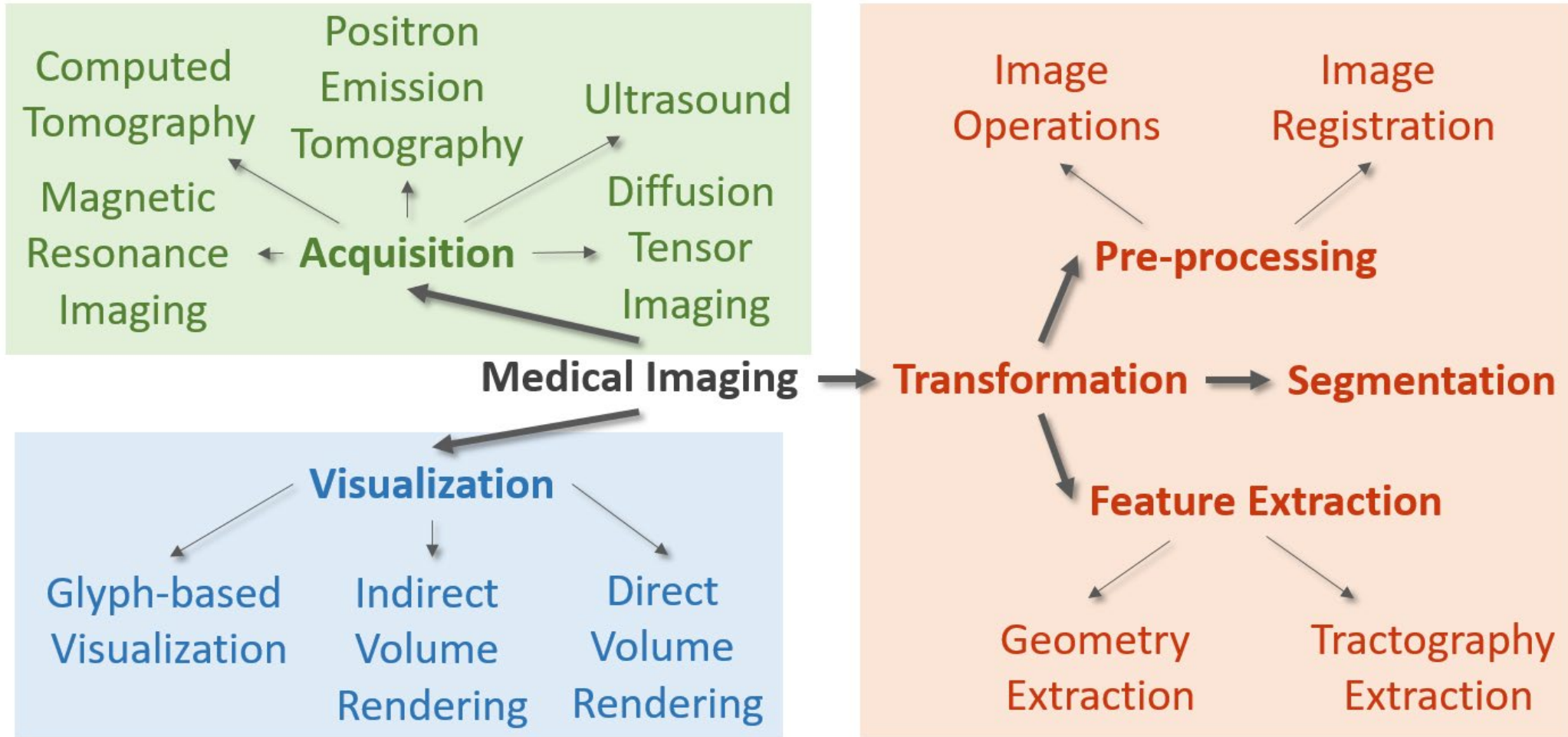
„Medical imaging is concerned with the analysis, visualization, and exploration of medical images“



- Acquisition:** Generation of medical images
- Transformation:** Analysis and processing of images
- Visualization:** Visual representation of medical images
- Applications:** Diagnosis, Treatment Planning, Intraoperative Support, Education



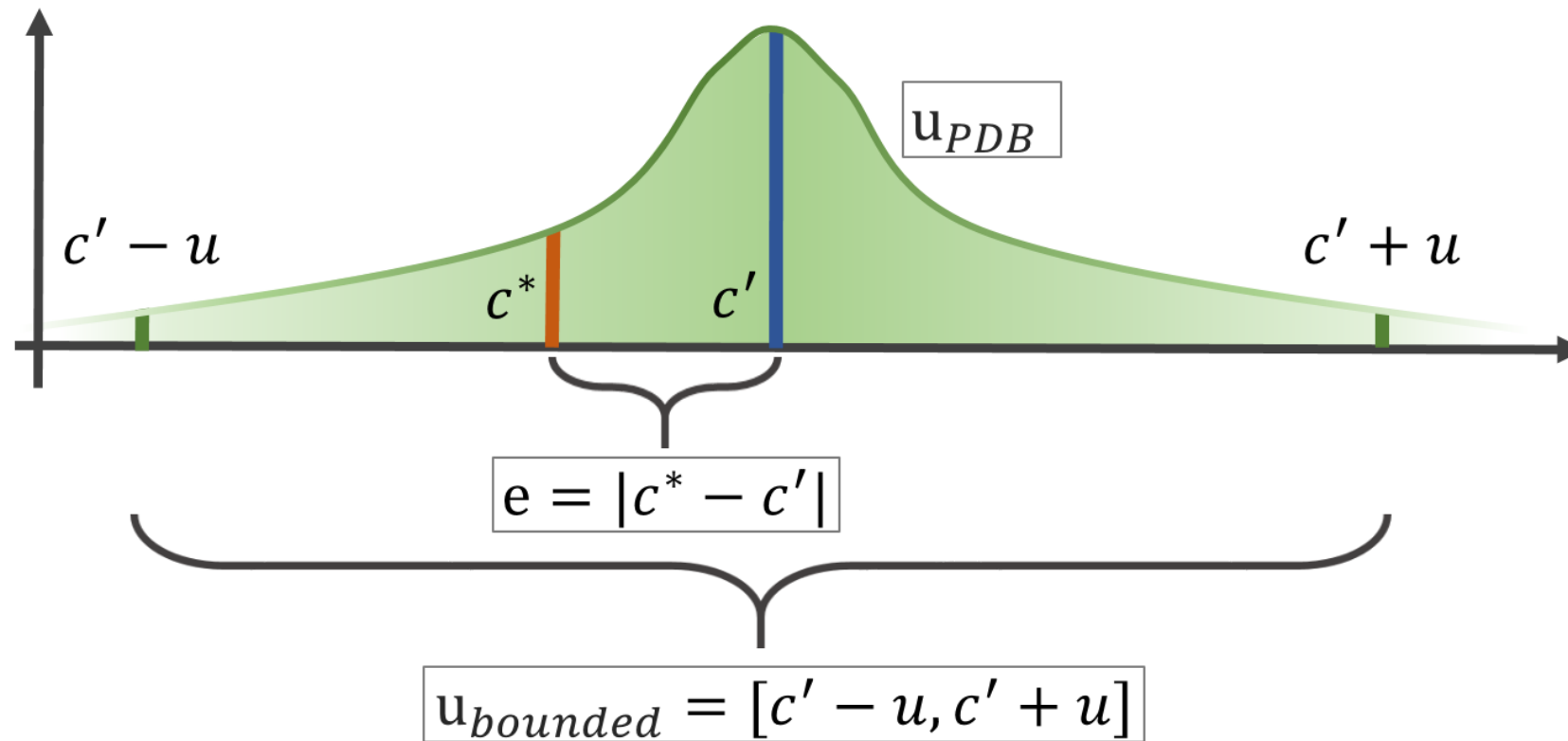
# 1. What is Medical Imaging?



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# 2. Definition of Uncertainty





# 2. Definition of Uncertainty

Uncertainties can be described by:

- Type
  - Aleatoric (uncertainty arising from the data)
  - Epistemic (uncertainty arising from the computational model)
- Dimensionality of Event
- Category (numerical, spatial, binary...)
- Description (discrete or continuous)



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# 3. Types of Uncertainties in Medical Imaging

Sources of Uncertainty	Type	Dimensionality of Event	Category	Description of Event
Positional uncertainty	$a$	3D	numerical	discrete
Pixel/voxel value uncertainty	$a$	nD	numerical	discrete
Incompleteness of Data	$a$	nD	numerical	discrete
Model inaccuracy	$e$	3D	spatial/volumetric/numeric	discrete/continuous
Model incompleteness	$e$	3D	spatial/volumetric/numeric	discrete/continuous
Parameter/boundary condition uncertainty	$a/e$	nD	numerical	discrete
Rasterization uncertainty	$e$	2D/3D	numerical	continuous
Perceptual and cognitive uncertainty	$e/a$	3D	binary	continuous
Decision making bias	$e/a$	3D	binary	continuous

**Goal: Capture at least of one these uncertainties in a visualization**



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# 4. Requirements of uncertainty-aware Visualization in Medical Imaging

- Discussion with collaborators
- Based on requirements known for medical imaging
- Rating of experts
- Reduction to high-level requirements
  1. Show the original dataset
  2. Show the related uncertainty
  3. Keep the cognitive load minimal



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# 5. Paper Selection Criteria

- Search Platforms
  - IEEE Transactions on Visualization and Computer Graphics
  - IEEE Transactions on Medical Imaging
  - Computers & Graphics
  - Eurographics Digital Library
  - Computer Graphics Forum
  - Uncertainty Quantification in Scientific Computing
  - Google Scholar
  - Springer Link



# 5. Paper Selection Criteria

- Keywords
  - 1. Part:**  
Uncertainty-aware Visualization | Uncertainty Visualization | Uncertainty Analysis | Sensitivity Analysis | Ambiguity Analysis | Variability | Variation
  - 2. Part:**  
Medical Imaging | Medical Imaging subcategories | Diagnosis | Intraoperative Support | Treatment Planning | Education
- Criteria of inclusion in this STAR
  - At least one example from medical imaging
  - Uncertainty visualization



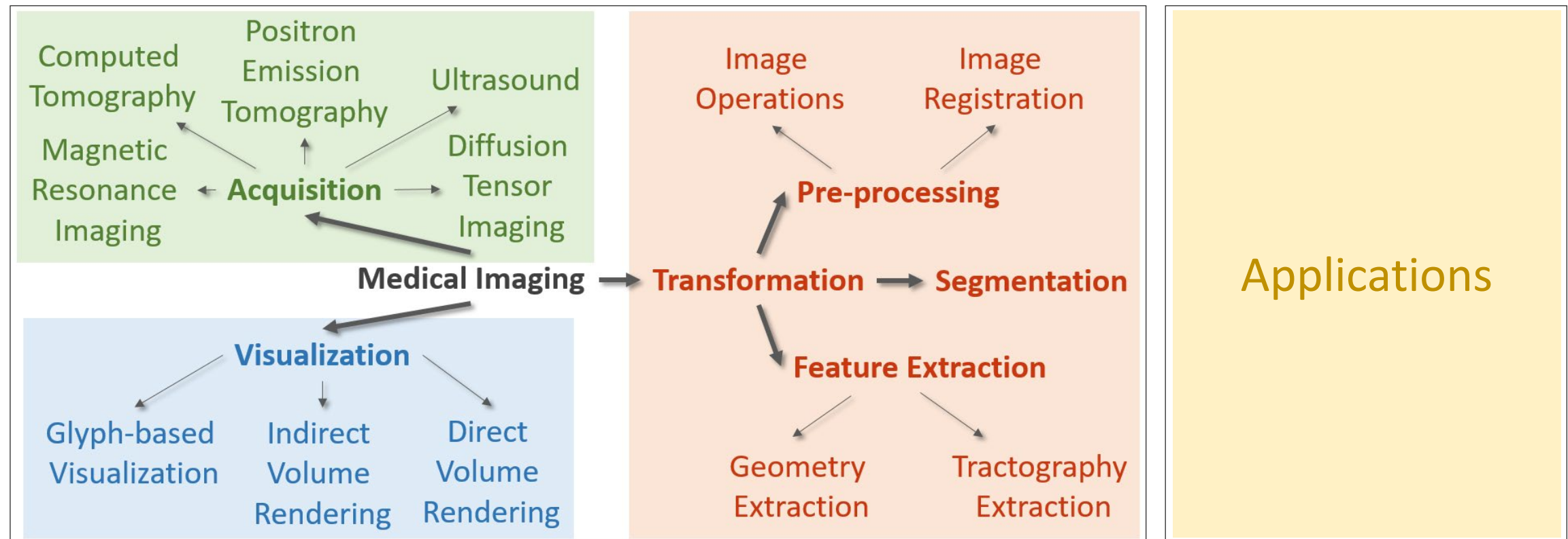


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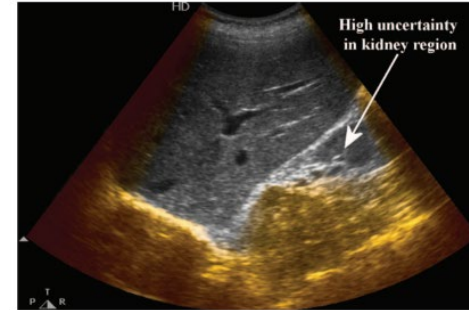
# 6.State of the art analysis

- Structured along the medical imaging pipeline

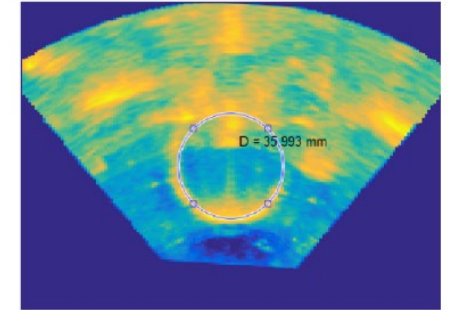


# 6.State of the art analysis (Acquisition)

- Ultrasound, Computed Tomography, Magnetic Resonance Tomography, Diffusion Tensor Imaging, Positron Emission Imaging
- Further imaging available, but not as popular

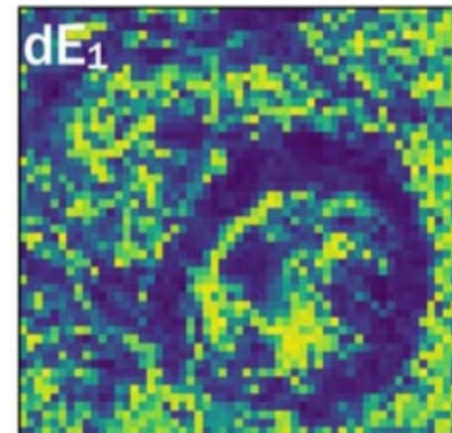


(a)

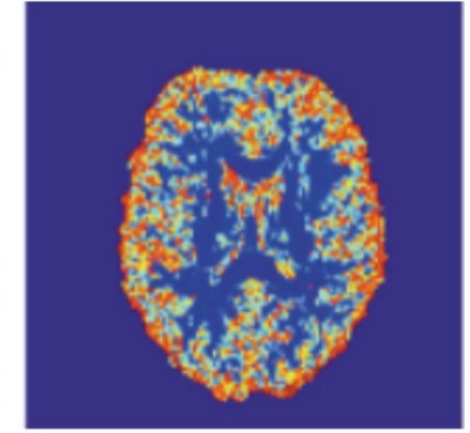


(b)

Ultrasound



(a)



(b)

Diffusion Tensor Imaging



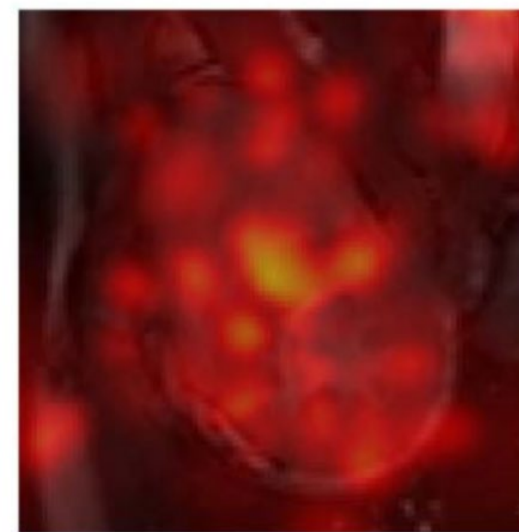
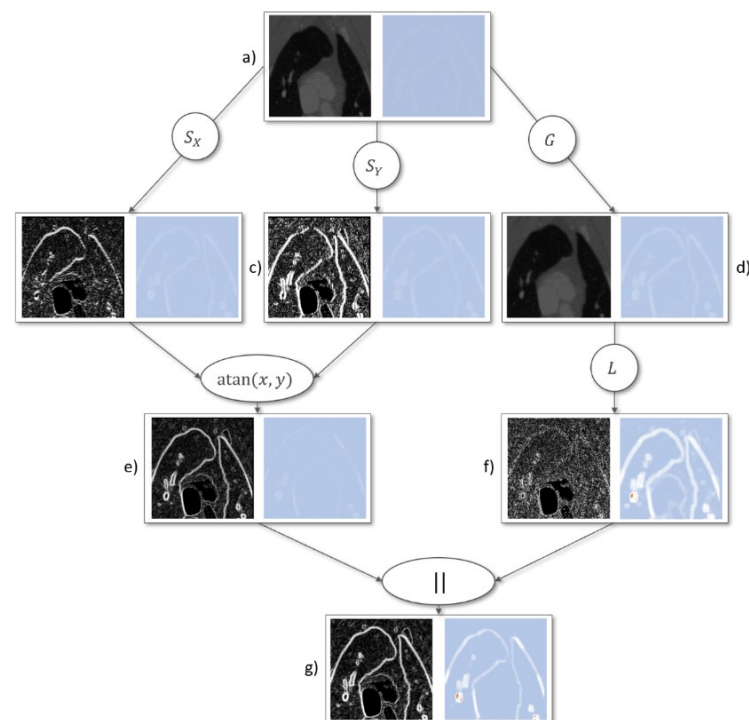
# 6.State of the art analysis (Acquisition)

Acquisition	Work	R1	R2	R3
Ultrasound	[HCMC10]	✓	✗	✓
	[ZBDH*15]	✓	✓	✓
	[KWKN12]	✓	✓	✓
	[LBdJ18]	✗	✓	✓
	[GML14]	✗	✓	✓
Computed Tomography	[HLF14]	✗	✓	✓
	[TS16]	✗	✓	✓
	[RHH*20]	✗	✓	✓
	[GAH*17]	✓	✓	✓
Magnetic Resonance Imaging	[EMVP19]	✗	✓	✓
	[GDP*20]	✗	✓	✓
	[CVR19]	✓	✓	✗
Diffusion Tensor Imaging	[AMME18]	✗	✓	✓
	[WTW*08]	✗	✓	✓
	[BWJ*03]	✗	✓	✓
Positron Emission Imaging	[SSHM07]	✗	✓	✓
	[HBG*15]	✗	✓	✓
	[NBYR12]	✓	✓	✗

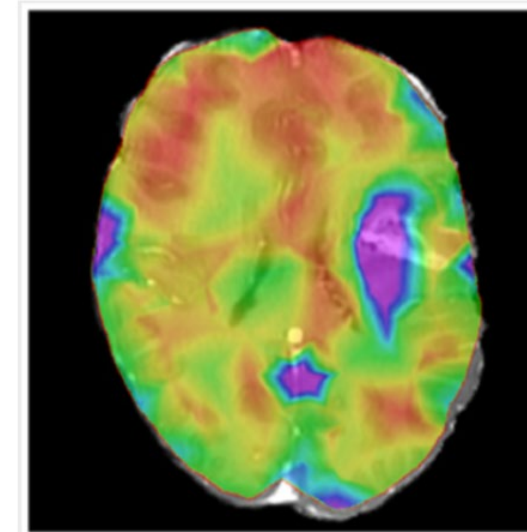


# 6.State of the art analysis (Transformation, preprocessing)

- Image pre-processing and image registration covered



(a)



(b)



# 6.State of the Art Analysis (Transformation, Preprocessing)

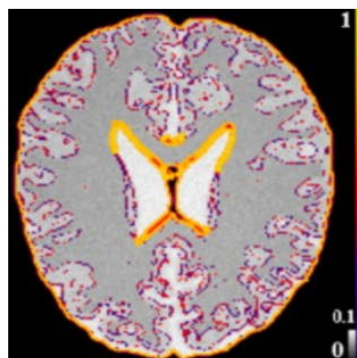
Transformation		Work	R1	R2	R3
Pre-Processing	Image Operations	[PAL01]	✓	✗	✗
		[MRSS08]	✓	✗	✗
		[JH01]	✓	✗	✗
		[LTAH13]	✓	✓	✗
		[FCC15]	✓	✗	✗
		[GPW*19]	✓	✓	✓
		[Cha15]	✓	✗	✗
	Image Registration	[LTAH13]	✗	✓	✓
		[BYW*20]	✗	✓	✓
		[LDCA17]	✗	✓	✓
		[RPSW10]	✓	✓	✓
		[YN15]	✓	✓	✓
		[SFJ*16]	✓	✓	✓



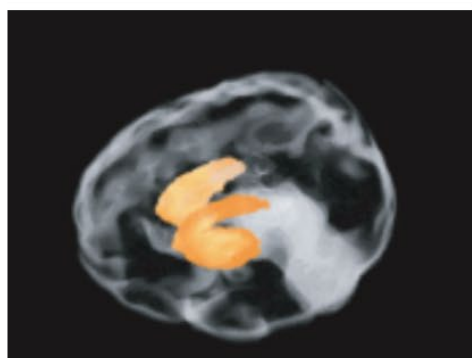


# 6. State of the Art Analysis (Transformation, Segmentation)

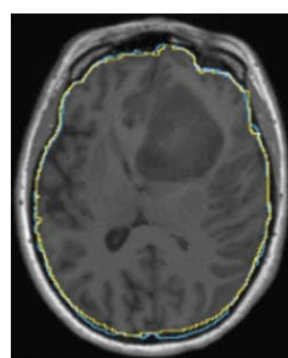
- Image Segmentation is involved in nearly any medical imaging process
- Machine learning on the rise



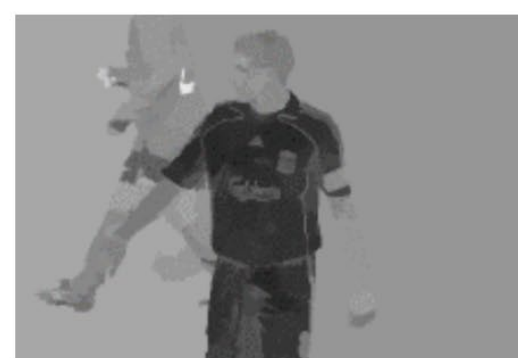
(a)



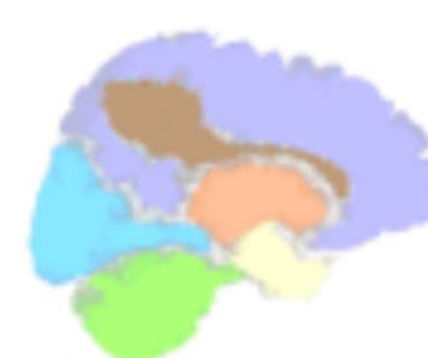
(b)



(c)



(d)



(e)



# 6. State of the Art Analysis (Transformation, Segmentation)

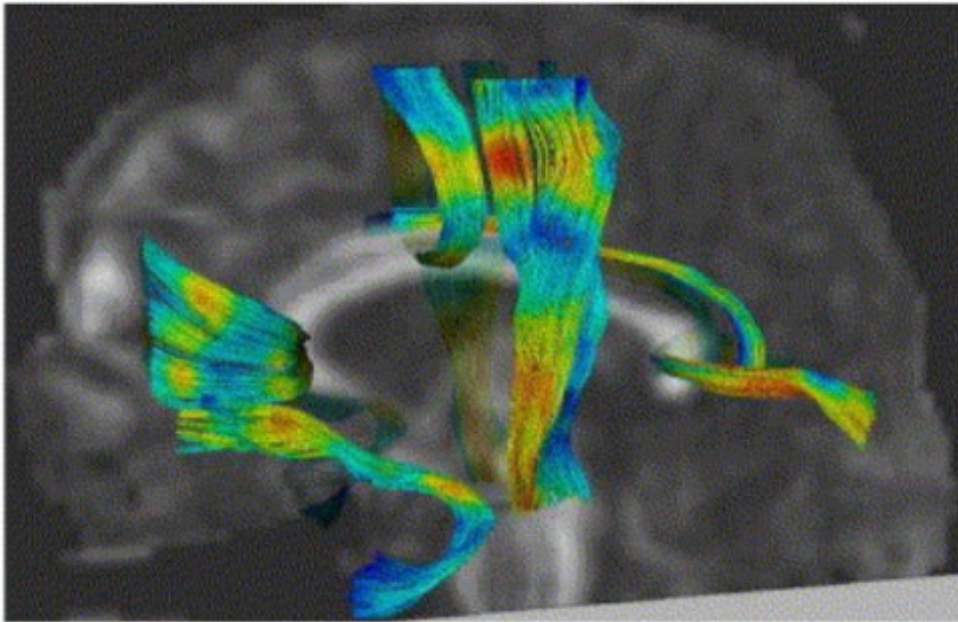
Transformation	Work	R1	R2	R3
Segmentation	[BS09]	✓	✗	✗
	[CCZ07]	✓	✗	✗
	[AVvO*04]	✓	✗	✗
	[KT08]	✗	✓	✓
	[Ada12]	✗	✓	✓
	[HR18]	✓	✓	✓
	[LGM*14]	✗	✓	✓
	[ATHL14]	✗	✓	✓
	[SHM10]	✗	✓	✗
	[PRH10]	✓	✓	✓
	[BUK*10]	✗	✓	✓
	[ATHL15]	✓	✓	✗
	[GPW*19]	✗	✓	✓
	[KWKP20]	✓	✓	✓
	[NPAA20]	✓	✓	✓



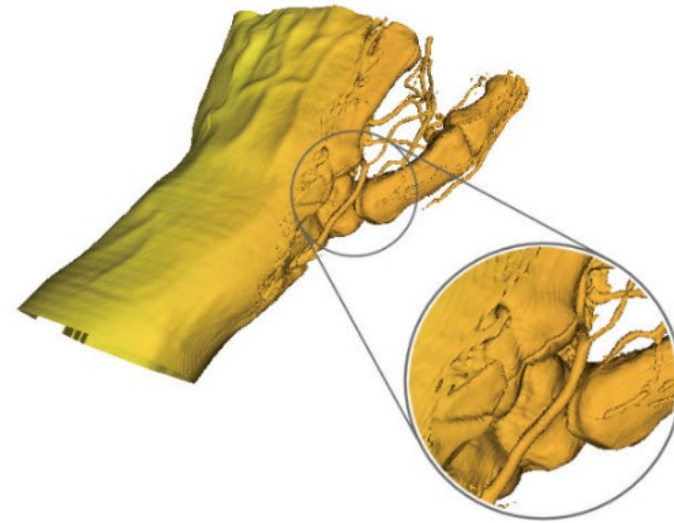


# 6. State of the Art Analysis (Transformation, Feature Extraction)

- Geometry extraction and tractography covered



(b)



(a)



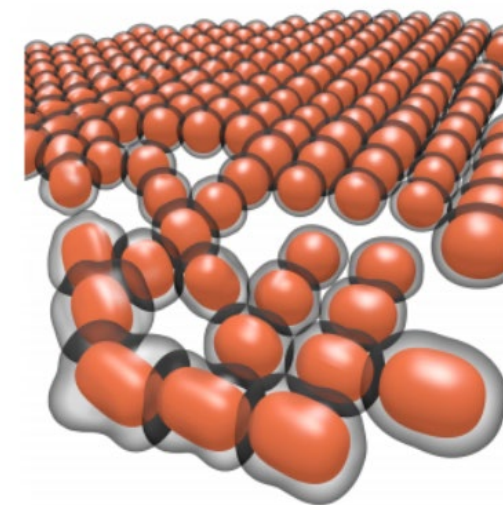
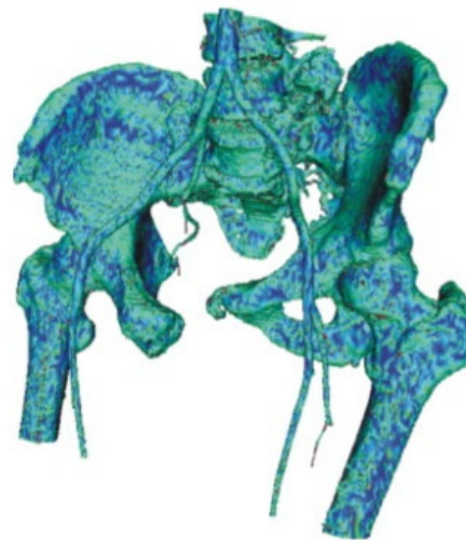
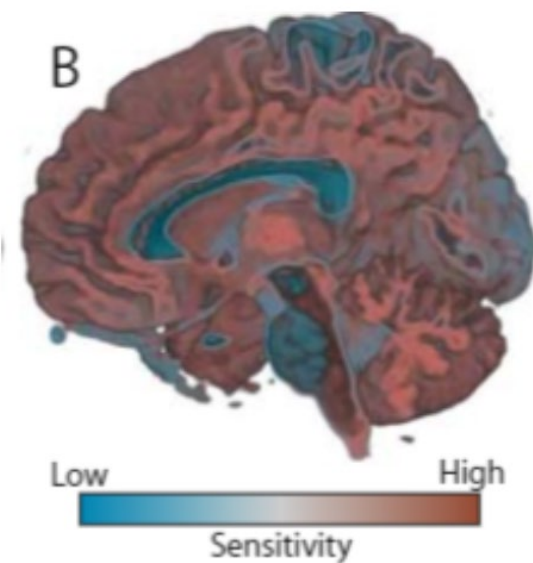
# 6. State of the Art Analysis (Transformation, Feature Extraction)

Transformation		Work	R1	R2	R3
Feature Extraction	Surface Extraction	[GMG09]	✓	✗	✗
		[DSS*09]	✓	✗	✗
		[PWH11]	✓	✗	✗
		[HMH*15]	✓	✓	✗
		[GWHA18]	✓	✓	✗
	Tracto- Graphy	[BBKW02]	✓	✓	✓
		[FFW06]	✓	✓	✓
		[CLH06]	✓	✓	✓
		[BBJ*07]	✓	✓	✓
		[BPVHR12]	✓	✓	✓



# 6. State of the Art Analysis (Visualization)

- Direct volume rendering, indirect volume rendering and glyph visualization
- Often lack the ability to relate to the original dataset



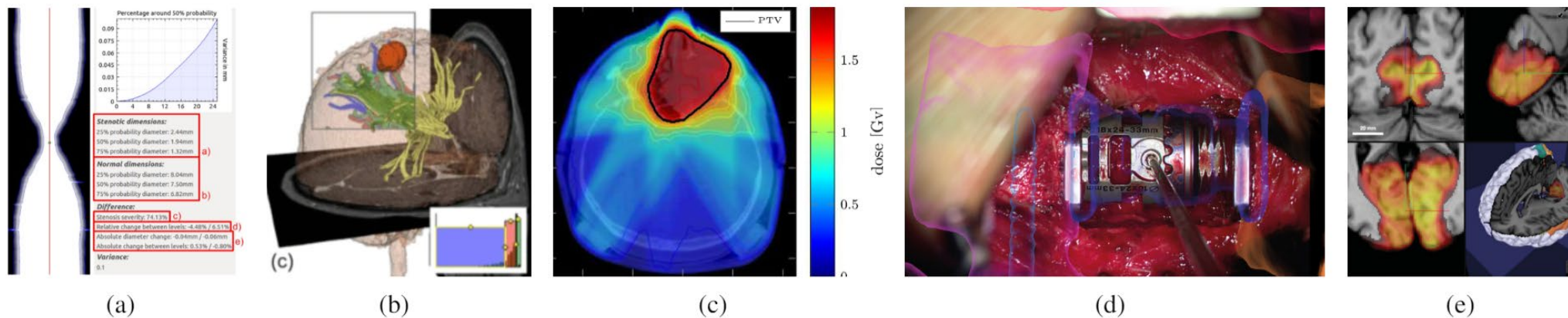
# 6. State of the Art Analysis (Visualization)

Visualization	Work	R1	R2	R3
Direct Volume Rendering	[Kni08]	✓	✓	X
	[LLPY07]	✓	✓	✓
	[MCC*20]	✓	✓	X
	[KSE16]	✓	✓	✓
Indirect Volume Rendering	[RLBS03]	✓	✓	X
	[GR04]	✓	✓	X
	[Dra08]	✓	✓	X
	[GWHA18]	✓	✓	X
Glyph-based Visualization	[Jon03]	✓	✓	X
	[ZSL*16]	✓	✓	X
	[GRT19]	✓	✓	X
	[AWHS16]	✓	✓	X
	[RGH*19]	✓	✓	X



# 6. State of the Art Analysis (Applications)

- Diagnosis, treatment Planning, Intraoperative Support and Education
- Visual Analytics approaches
- Interactive approaches
- Multi-modal visualization





# 6. State of the Art Analysis (Applications)

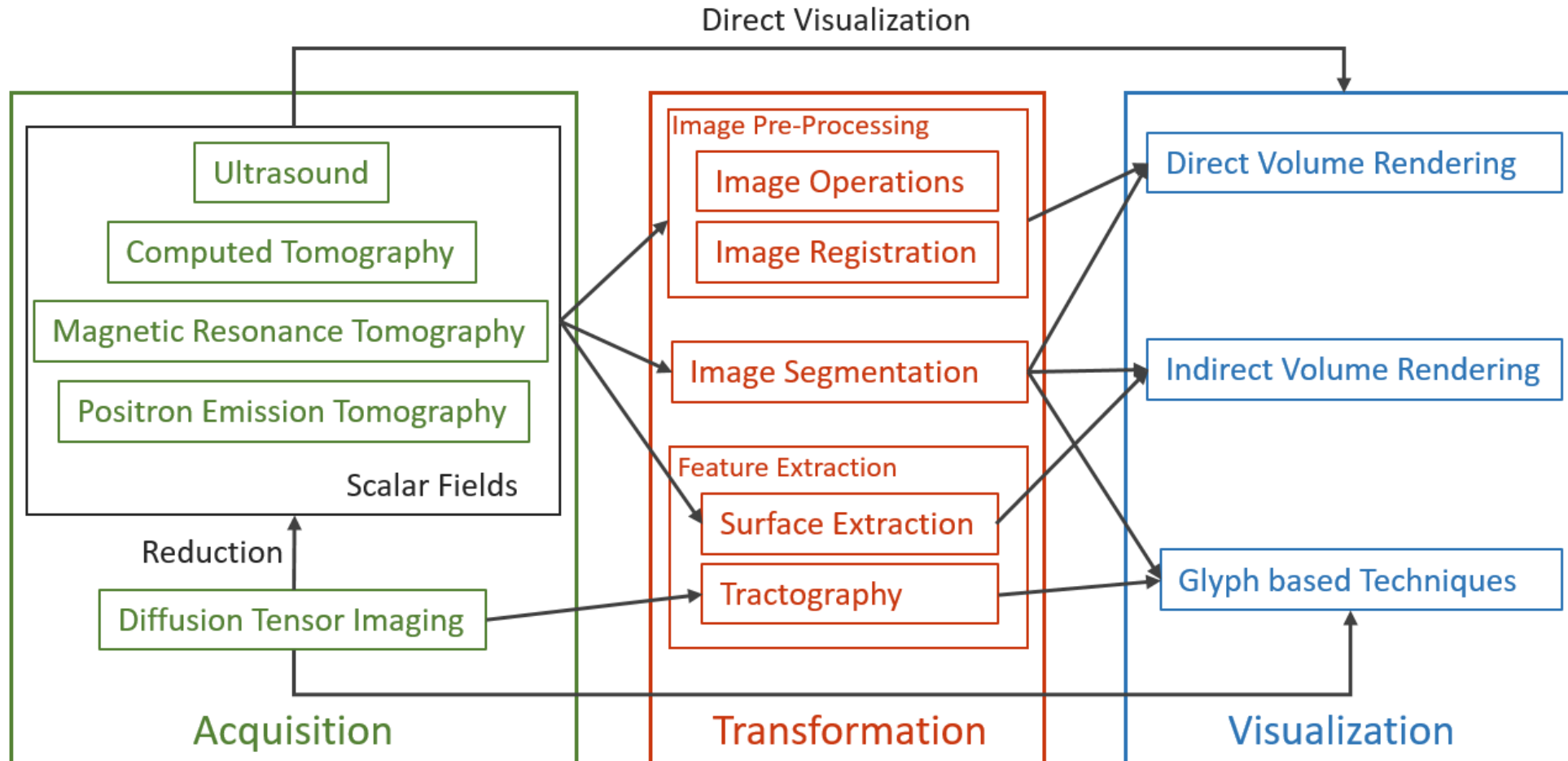
Application	Work	R1	R2	R3
Diagnosis	[SSHM07]	✓	✓	✗
	[GSW*20]	✗	✓	✓
	[BPtHRV13]	✓	✓	✓
	[RMW*17]	✗	✓	✓
	[GMHW18]	✓	✓	✓
Treatment Planning	[WCW*17]	✓	✓	✗
	[MUO06]	✗	✓	✓
	[CST*18]	✓	✓	✓
	[AMBZ20]	✗	✓	✗
	[Fox18]	✓	✓	✓
Intraoperative Support	[SMC*06]	✓	✓	✓
	[CBS*19]	✓	✓	✓
	[SMV*14]	✓	✓	✓
	[GMP*18]	✗	✓	✓
Education	-	-	-	-



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# 7. Creation of Medical Imaging Pipelines





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# 8. Open Problems

- Identification of proper Uncertainty Quantification Approaches
- Uncertainty in Clinical Studies
- Exploration Tools for Uncertainty in Medical Image Data
- Knowledge from other Applications
- Provenance Visualization of Uncertainty
- Teaching of uncertainty-aware Medical Imaging
- Connection to Sensitivity and Ensemble Visualization
- Further use of Machine Learning
- Visual Analytics Approaches in Medical Imaging
- Ready to use Framework



# Thank you!

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