ABSTRACT for POSTER presentation at AIP 2005

Novel evolution strategies for th e solution of 3D shape inverse problems in medical imaging with light.

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Abstract:

In medical imaging typically the problem is posed that spatially varying parameters of a given PDE need to be reconstructed from indirect physical measurements of the fields. For example, in diffuse optical tomography and in fluorescence tomography the absorption and the scattering parameter of a transport equation (or a simplified diffusion equation) are sought for imaging parts of the human body. Designing efficient reconstruction schemes, which can be applied in a stable way to 3D data, still imposes computational difficulties and numerical mathematical challenges to the present state of the art. We present novel reconstruction schemes, which have the goal to finally yield fully 3D reconstructions from a (possibly small) set of 3D data. For this purpose we use the assumption that unknown objects can be characterized as shapes with a well-defined (but possibly only approximately known) parameter contrast to the known background distribution. These schemes start with an initial guess of the unknown shape and define a shape evolution for solving the inverse problem. During the evolution, the shapes are constrained to stay in a certain class of shapes. We present numerical examples in 2D and in 3D, which demonstrate the performance of these techniques.