

MSc Project

Segmentation of sparse annotated data: application to cardiac imaging

Abstract: In Cardiac Magnetic Resonance imaging (CMR), segmenting the left ventricle, the right ventricle and the myocardium is a common task in clinical routine. Several state of the art deep learning algorithms are able to achieve reliable and great performances for this task [1–3]. Nevertheless, it is often performed in a supervised way, i.e. annotated data are needed. Because these annotations are time-consuming for the clinician to make, recent works focus on being able to limit the needs of annotation and still provide robust and reliable segmentation. Different strategies exist to overcome this limitation such as transfer learning [4, 5] or self-supervised learning [6] that are learning a priori knowledge respectively on a similar annotated dataset or without any annotation.

The objective of this project is to be able to provide robust and reliable segmentation of a sparse annotated CMR dataset. The prospective student will develop a segmentation network based on recent strategies for sparsed annotated data and compare them to state of the art deep-learning segmentation methods.

Requirements:

- Prior experience and good understanding in machine learning and statistics.
- Very good programming skills in Python (and PyTorch).
- Interest in medical imaging.

Contact:

Dr. Maxime Di Folco (maxime.difolco@helmholtz-muenchen.de)
Prof. Julia Schnabel (julia.schnabel@tum.de)

References

- [1] Bernard, O et al., "Deep Learning Techniques for Automatic MRI Cardiac Multi-Structures Segmentation and Diagnosis: Is the Problem Solved?," *IEEE Transactions on Medical Imaging*, vol. 37, no. 11, pp. 2514-2525, (2018)
- [2] Campello, Victor M., et al. "Multi-centre, multi-vendor and multi-disease cardiac segmentation: the M&Ms challenge." *IEEE Transactions on Medical Imaging*, vol. 40, no. 12, pp. 3543-3554, (2021)
- [3] C. Chen et al., "Deep Learning for Cardiac Image Segmentation: A Review", *Frontiers in Cardiovascular Medicine*, vol. 7, (2020)
- [4] B. Ruijsink et al. "Fully automated, quality-controlled cardiac analysis from CMR: validation and large-scale application to characterize cardiac function". *Cardiovascular Imaging*, 13(3), 684-695, (2020)

- [5] N. Painchaud et al., "Cardiac Segmentation With Strong Anatomical Guarantees," in *IEEE Transactions on Medical Imaging*, vol. 39, no. 11, pp. 3703-3713, (2020)
- [6] D. Zeng et al., "Positional Contrastive Learning for Volumetric Medical Image Segmentation", *Medical Image Computing and Computer Assisted Intervention – MICCAI 2021*, pp. 221–230, (2021)