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Development of 3D Model-based Morphometric Method  
for Assessment of Human Weight-bearing Joint

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# Introduction

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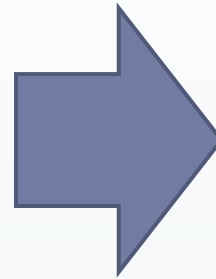
- ▶ Clinical measurement in the foot pathology requires **accurate** and **robust** measurement
- ▶ Among weight-bearing joints, the ankle has a complex structure which can derive errors in diagnosis using conventional medical images
  - ▶ During performing 2D X-ray based conventional measurement
- ▶ To assess 3D posture of the foot, several methods have been proposed using 3D medical images (CT, MRI)
  - ▶ Different from measurement methods based on a 2D image (X-ray)
  - ▶ Usually measure the angle referring anatomical landmarks on the surface of bone or skin

# Goal

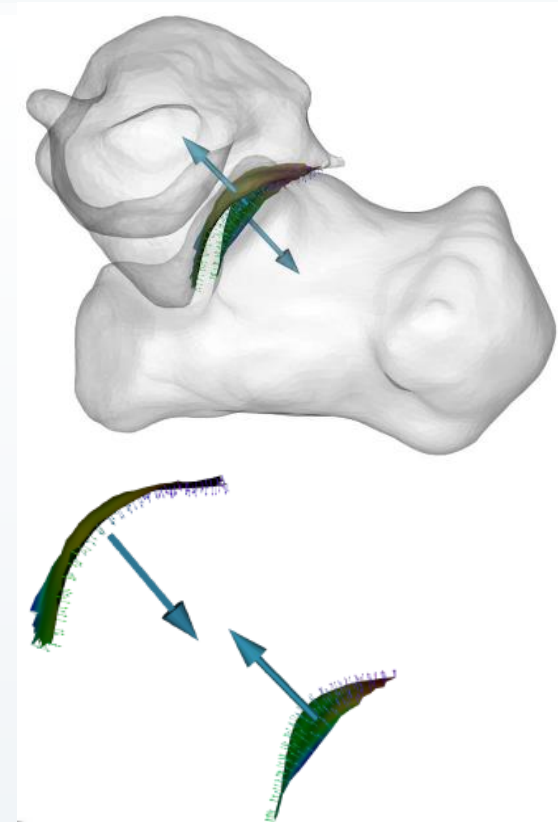
## Conventional Method



*Angles measured  
from 2D radiographs*

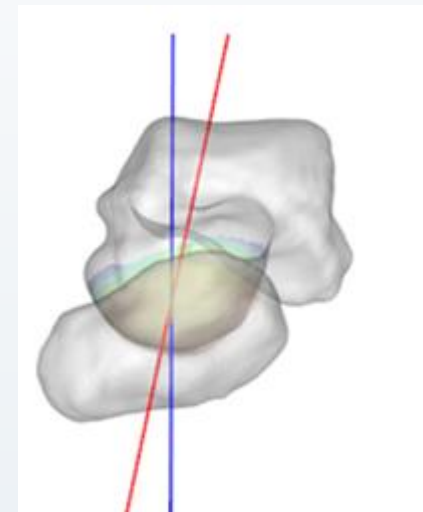
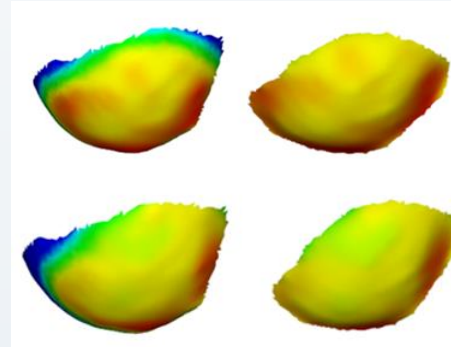
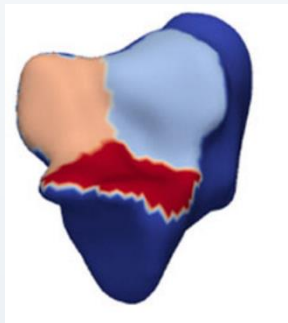
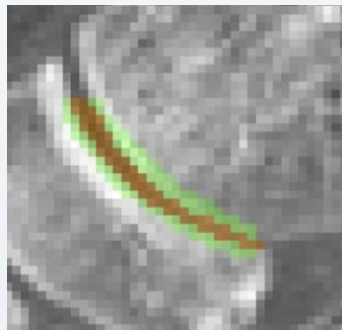
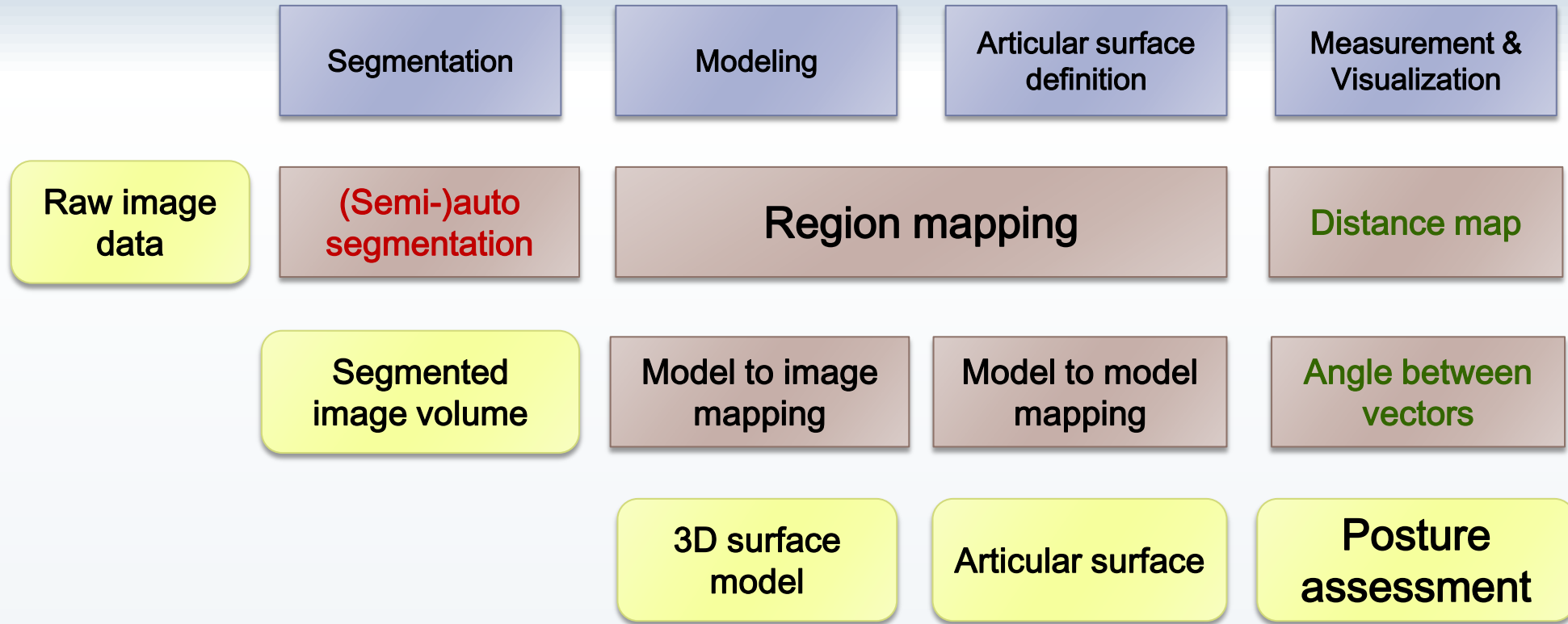


## Proposed Method



*Angles measured  
based on 3D structures*

# Overall Method



# Problems

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## ▶ Issues raised for the project

- ▶ Difficulties in segmentation due to the fuzzy structure of the bone from the image
- ▶ Difficulties in consistent designation of articular surface due to variety of the bone shape among subjects
- ▶ Difficulties in consistent measurement of the angle between bones due to various appearance of foot structure in patient images

## → **Our approaches for obtaining robust measurements**

- ▶ Using the articular surface encoded in a 3D foot bone model
- ▶ Algorithms for the standardization

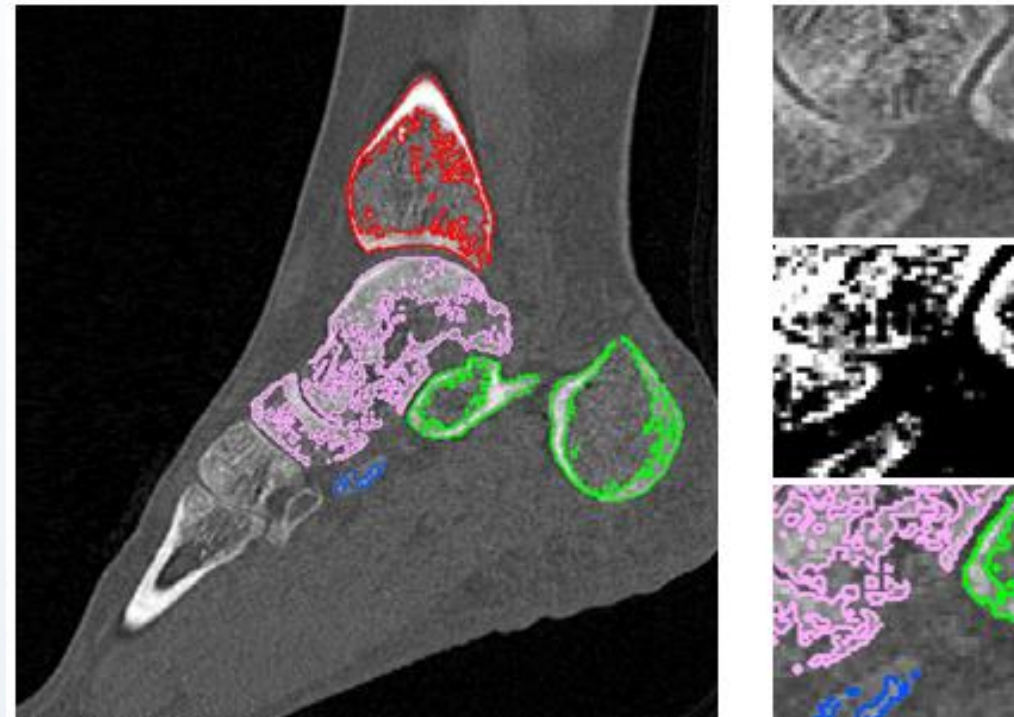
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- ▶ Segmentation technique for joint space
- ▶ Patient-specific modeling
- ▶ Model-based 3D foot posture measurement
- ▶ Global frame of reference generation

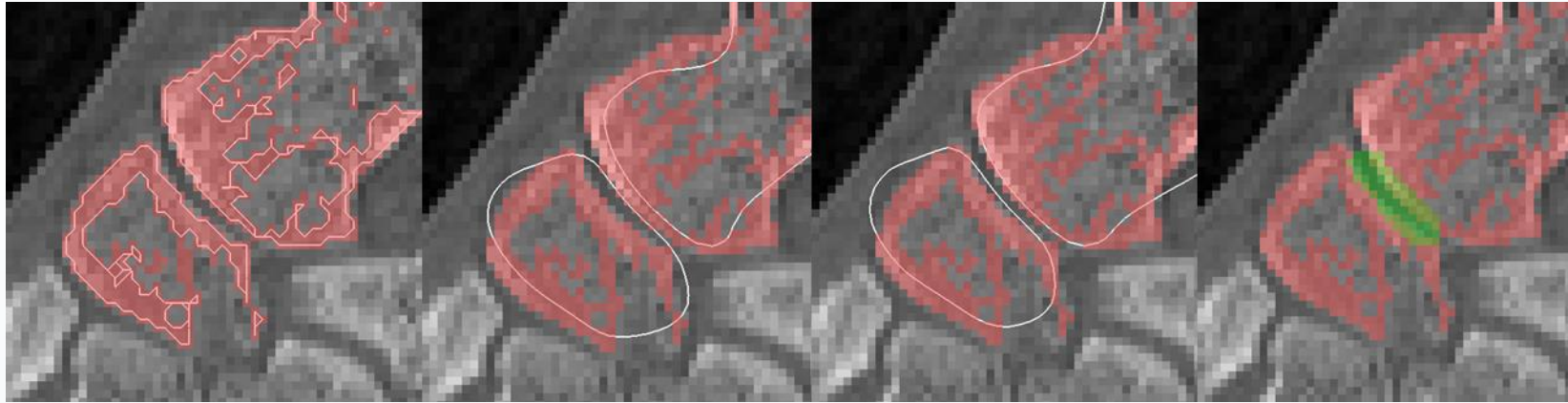
# Joint space segmentation

- ▶ Difficulties in segmentation of foot bone from the image
  - ▶ Vague boundary between bones
  - ▶ Hard to separate bones especially in weight-bearing image caused by narrowing
- ▶ Our solution
  - ▶ Tight bound ROI
    - ▶ Designate a joint space on a template model of the foot bone
    - ▶ Deform whole structure of the foot joint to a target image
    - ▶ Detect the region which should be separated
  - ▶ Joint space extraction
    - ▶ Approximate a joint space based on the probabilistic model
    - ▶ MAP-MRF labeling method

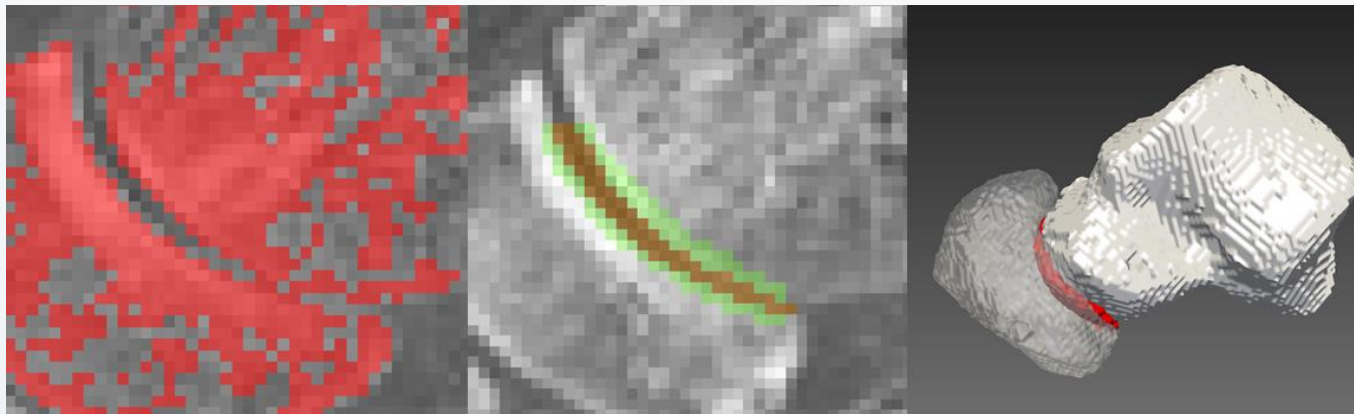


# Joint space segmentation

## Tight bound ROI generation



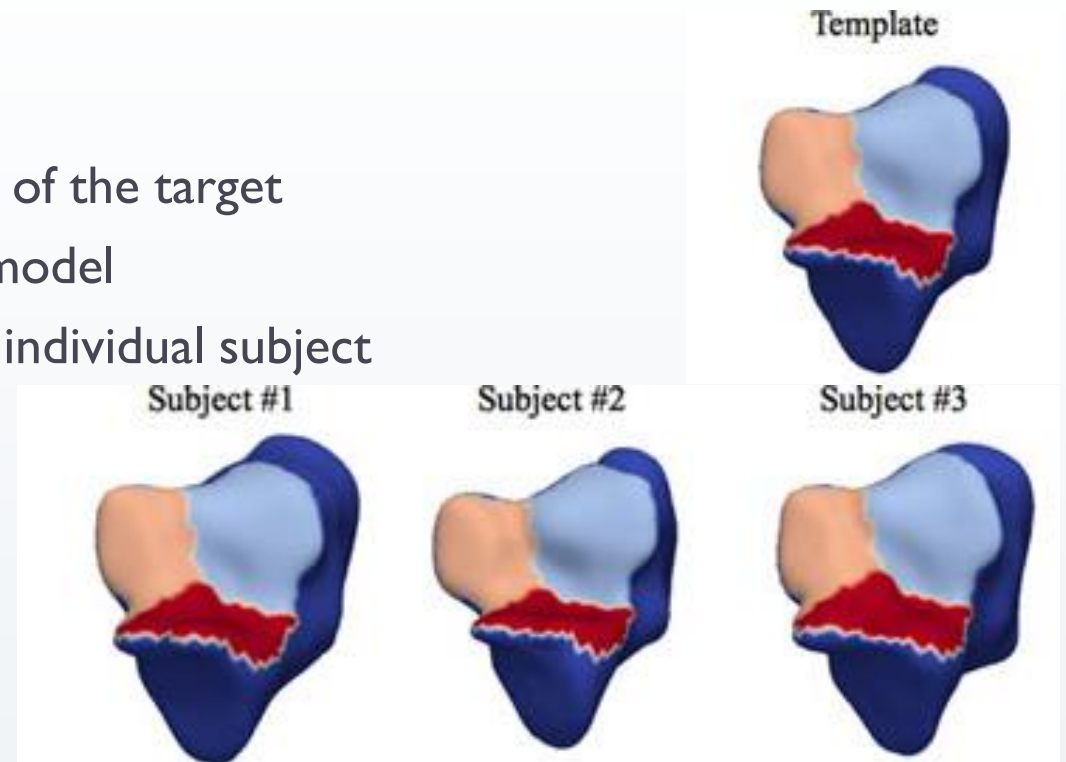
## Joint space extraction using MRFs





# Patient-specific modeling

- ▶ Difficulties in region mapping for articular surface
    - ▶ Hard to transfer the designated region uniformly from one model to another
  - ▶ Our solution: Deformable modeling technique
    - ▶ Construct a template model based on generic shape of the target
    - ▶ Encode an articular surface region on the template model
    - ▶ Perform non-rigid template-to-image registration to individual subject
      - ▶ *Maintain point correspondence on the mesh model*
      - ▶ *Minimize model distortion*
- Patient-specific model including anatomical information



J. Kim, S. Seo, D. Lee, and J. Park, "Template-based landmark and region mapping of bone," Journal of Foot and Ankle Research, 2014

J. Kim, M. d. C. Valdes-Hernandez, N. A. Royle, and J. Park, "Hippocampal Shape modeling based on a Progressive Template Surface Deformation and Its Verification," IEEE Transactions on Medical Imaging, Vol. 34, No. 6, pp. 1242-1261, June 2015

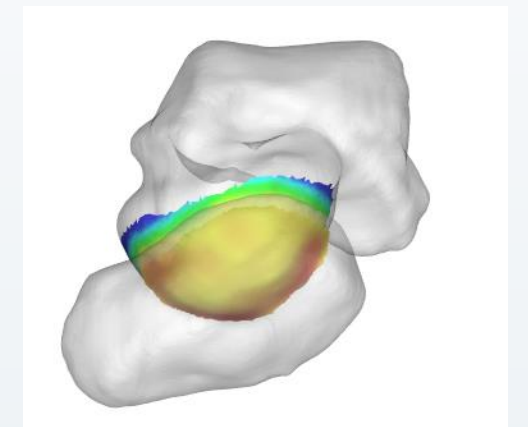
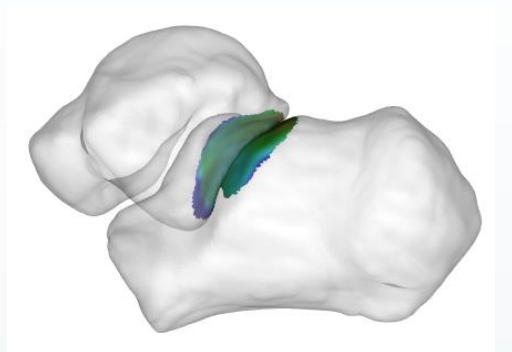
# Patient-specific modeling

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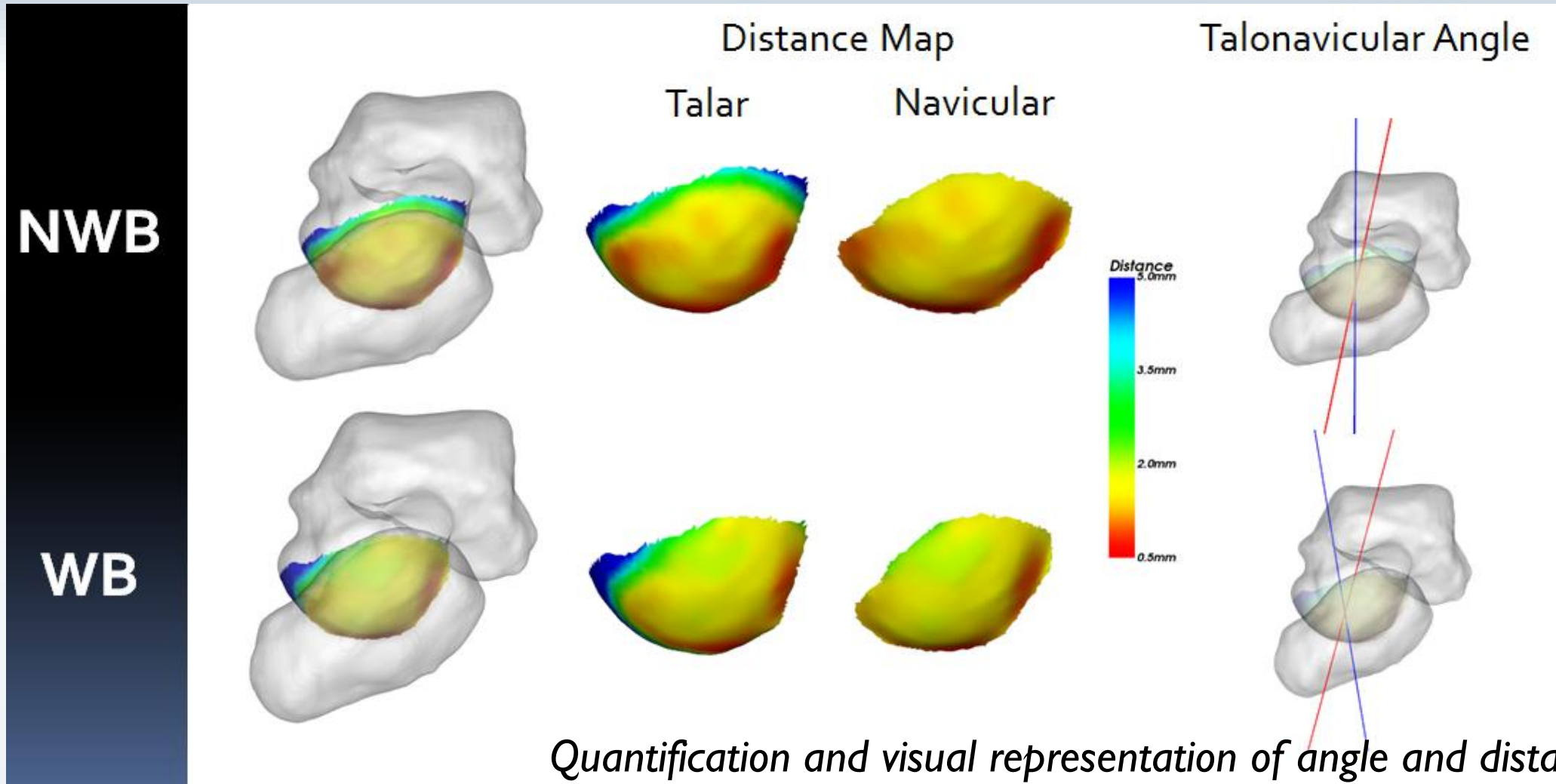
- ▶ **Template initialization**
  - ▶ Align model to segmented image using ICP algorithm
  - ▶ Set multi-level neighborhood and Laplacian coordinate
  
- ▶ **Non-rigid model deformation**
  - ▶ Progressive model deformation
  - ▶  $E(V') = \sum_{i=1}^n \alpha_i \|L(v'_i) - \delta_i\|^2 + \sum_{i=1}^n \|b_i - v_i\|^2$ 
    - ▶  $V'$ : set of the optimal vertex coordinate ( $v'_i$ )
    - ▶  $\delta_i$ : Laplacian coordinate of each vertex ( $v_i$ )
    - ▶  $b_i$ : Desired position where  $v_i$  will be placed after each iteration
  
- ▶ **Local shape detail restoration**
  - ▶ Set minimum neighbor count
  - ▶ Rotation-and Scale Invariant (RSI) Transformation

# Model-based 3D foot posture measurement

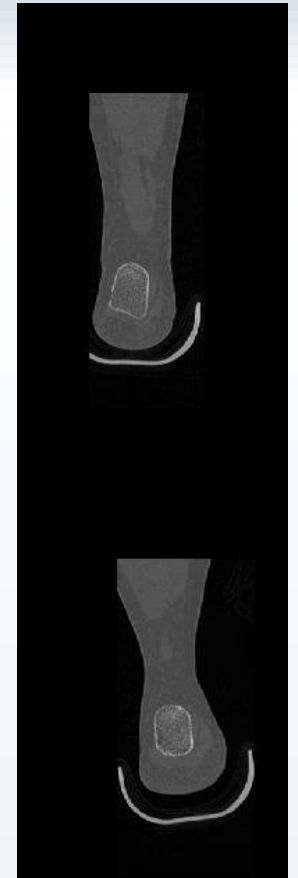
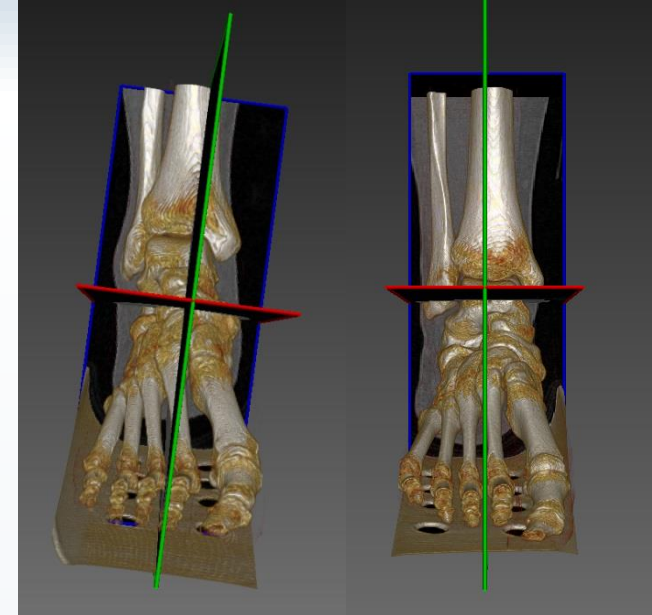
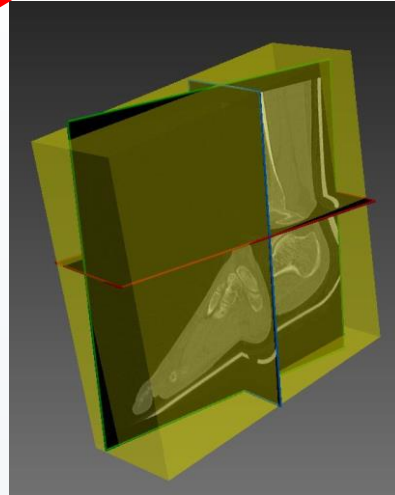
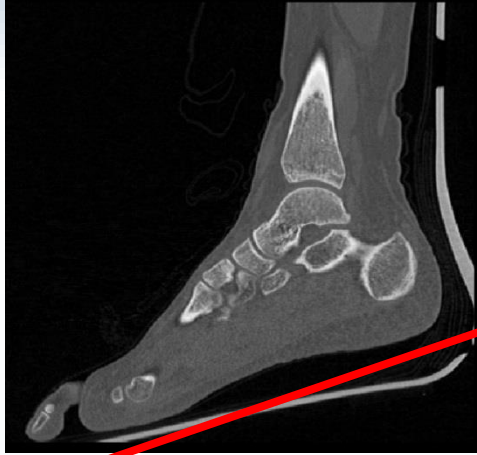
- ▶ Measurement of the posture using an articular surface in a patient-specific foot bone model
- ▶ Measurement method
  - ▶ Talus → Calcaneus
    - ▶ Angle from local reference axis of Talus to local reference axis of Calcaneus
    - Reported in 2D projection angles based on the global reference
    - ▶ Distance map between Talus and Calcaneus
  - ▶ Talus → Navicular
    - ▶ Angle from local reference axis of Talus to local reference axis of Navicular
    - Reported in 2D projection angles based on the global reference
    - ▶ Distance map between Talus and Navicular



# Model-based 3D foot posture measurement



# Global frame of reference generation

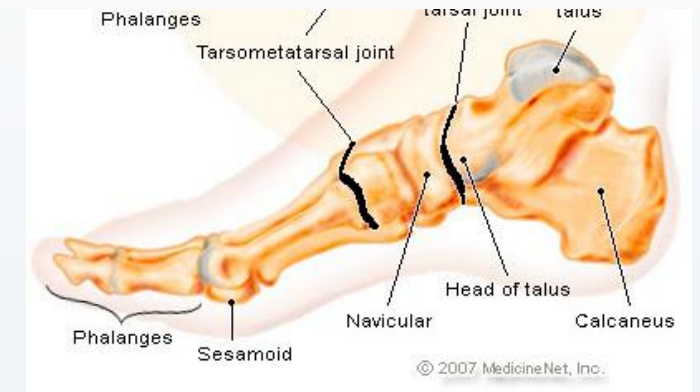
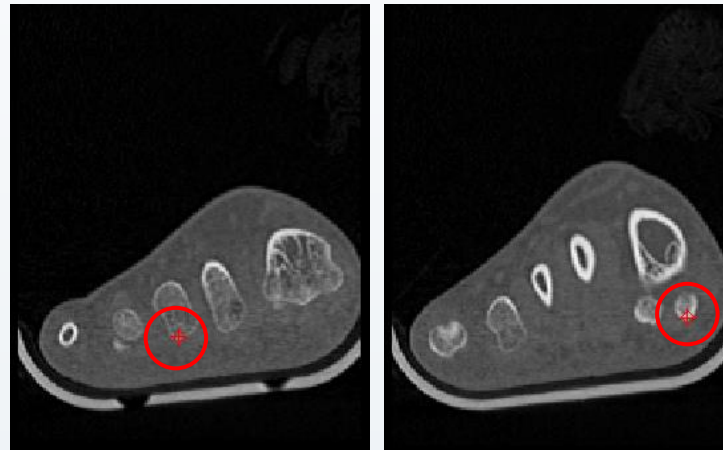


- ▶ Problem: Inconsistency in the frame of reference from the image
  - ▶ Direction of the foot may be varied
    - ▶ Movement of patient
    - ▶ Imaging circumstance (device, cast, ...)

# Global frame of reference generation

## ▶ Our solution

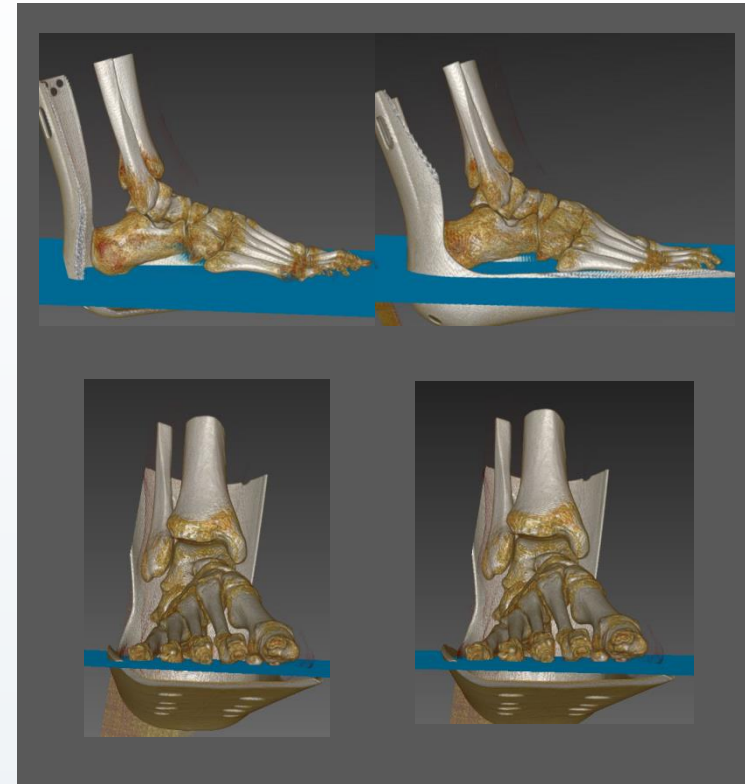
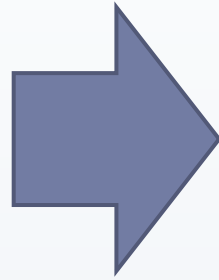
- ▶ Global reference axis based on extracted anatomical landmarks from selected foot bones
  - ▶ Represent a ground that the foot is stepping on
  - ▶ 1<sup>st</sup> axis: lowest point of Calcaneus → lowest point of 3<sup>rd</sup> Metatarsal
  - ▶ 2<sup>nd</sup> axis: lowest point of 3<sup>rd</sup> Metatarsal → lowest point of Sesamoid
  - ▶ 3<sup>rd</sup> axis: 1<sup>st</sup> axis  $\times$  2<sup>nd</sup> axis



# Global frame of reference generation

## ▶ Result

- ▶ Aligned foot structures based on generated global frame of reference



# Conclusion

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- ▶ Measurement based on the articular surface
    - ▶ 3D measurement of *angle, narrowing, coverage* between bones
  - ▶ TODO
    - ▶ Verification of proposed method with comparison among
      - ▶ Articular surface-based method and anatomical point-based method
      - ▶ Manual designation and automatic designation of the anatomical landmarks
    - ▶ Clinical analysis on various subjects using quantified posture
- By using proposed methods, we can capture 3D posture of the foot bone and quantify inter-patient or inter-posture differences using standardized measurement process



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THANK YOU 😊