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BROWN

Neural Operators for Detecting Aortic Aneurysm Contributors

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Can we predict the rupture of aneurysm?



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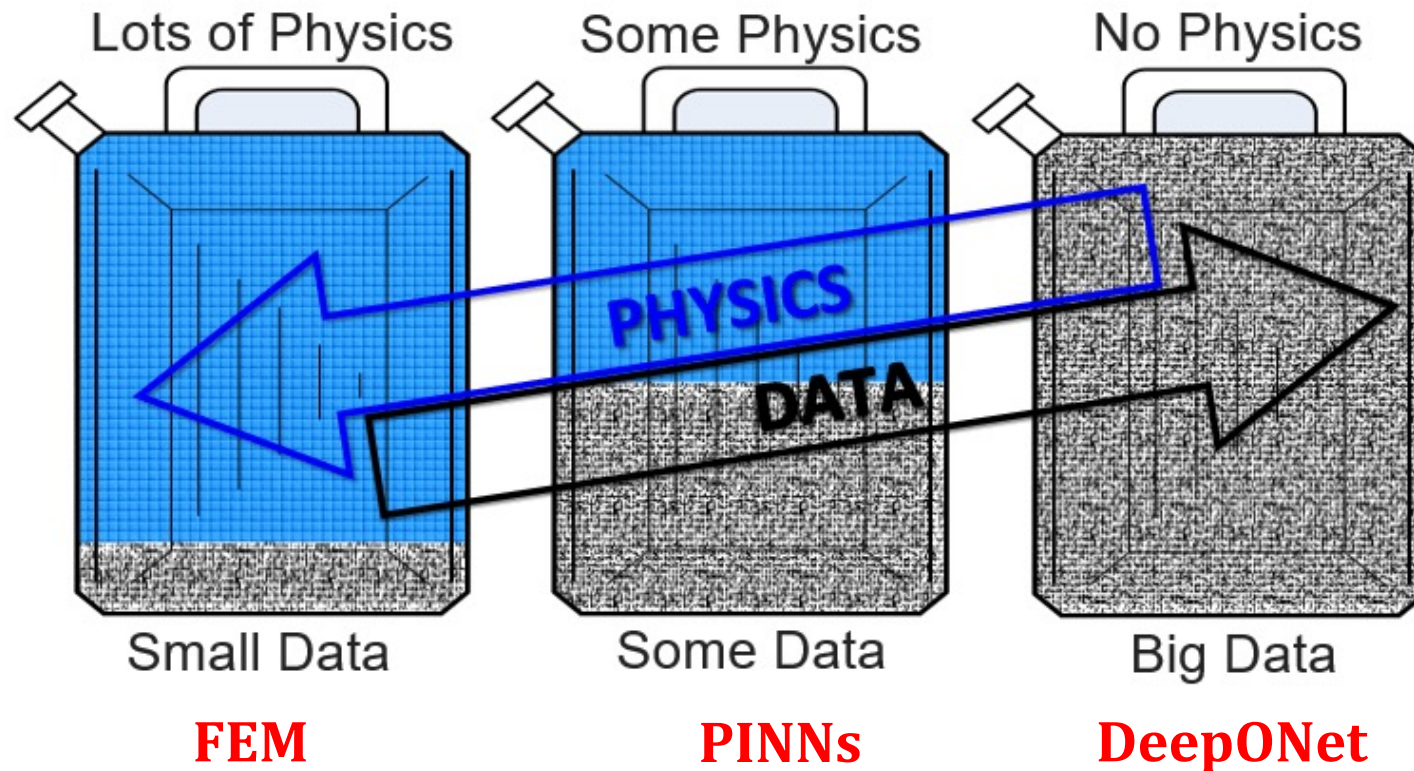


Courtesy: Boston Children's Hospital,
J. Marsden

Data + Laws of Physics

The 5D Law: Dinky, Dirty, Dynamic, Deceptive Data

Three scenarios of Physics-Informed Learning Machines



Deep Operator Networks

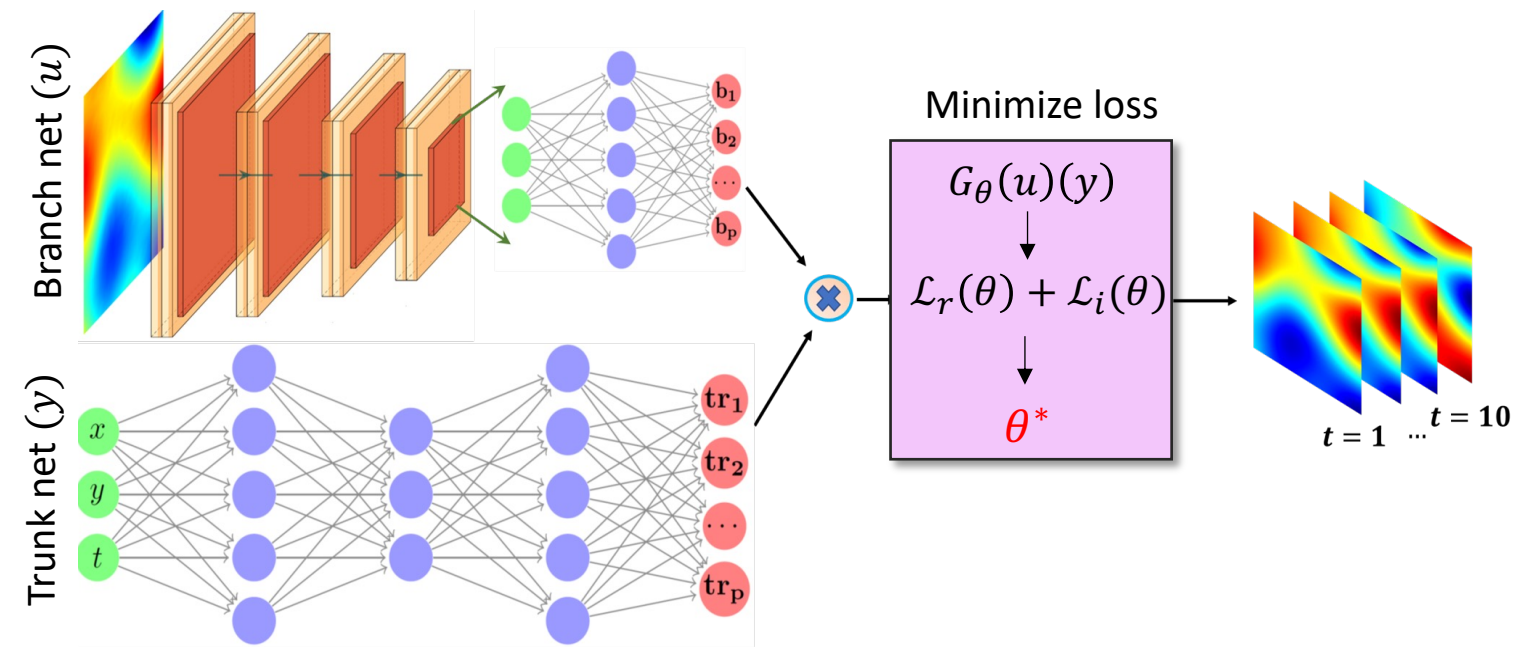
- Generalized Universal Approximation Theorem for Operator [Chen '95, Lu et al. '19]

- Branch net:** Input $\{u(x_i)\}_{i=1}^m$, output: $[b_1, b_2, \dots, b_p]^T \in \mathbb{R}^p$

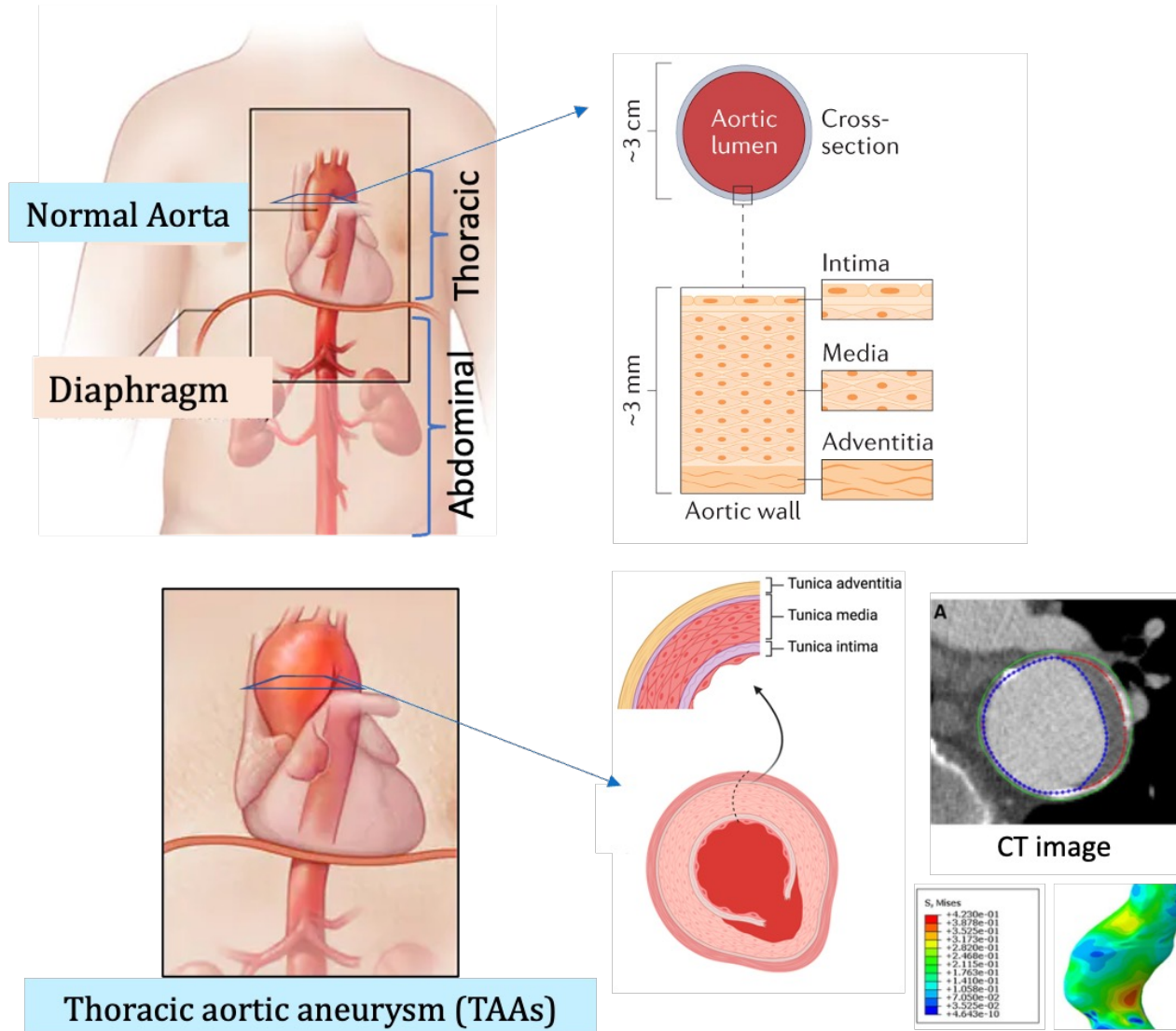
- Trunk net:** Input y , output: $[t_1, t_2, \dots, t_p]^T \in \mathbb{R}^p$

- Input u is evaluated at the fixed locations $\{y_i\}_{i=1}^m$

$$G_\theta(u)(y) = \sum_{i=1}^p \underbrace{b_i(u(x_1), u(x_2), \dots, u(x_m))}_{\text{branch net}} \cdot \underbrace{tr_i(y)}_{\text{trunk net}}$$

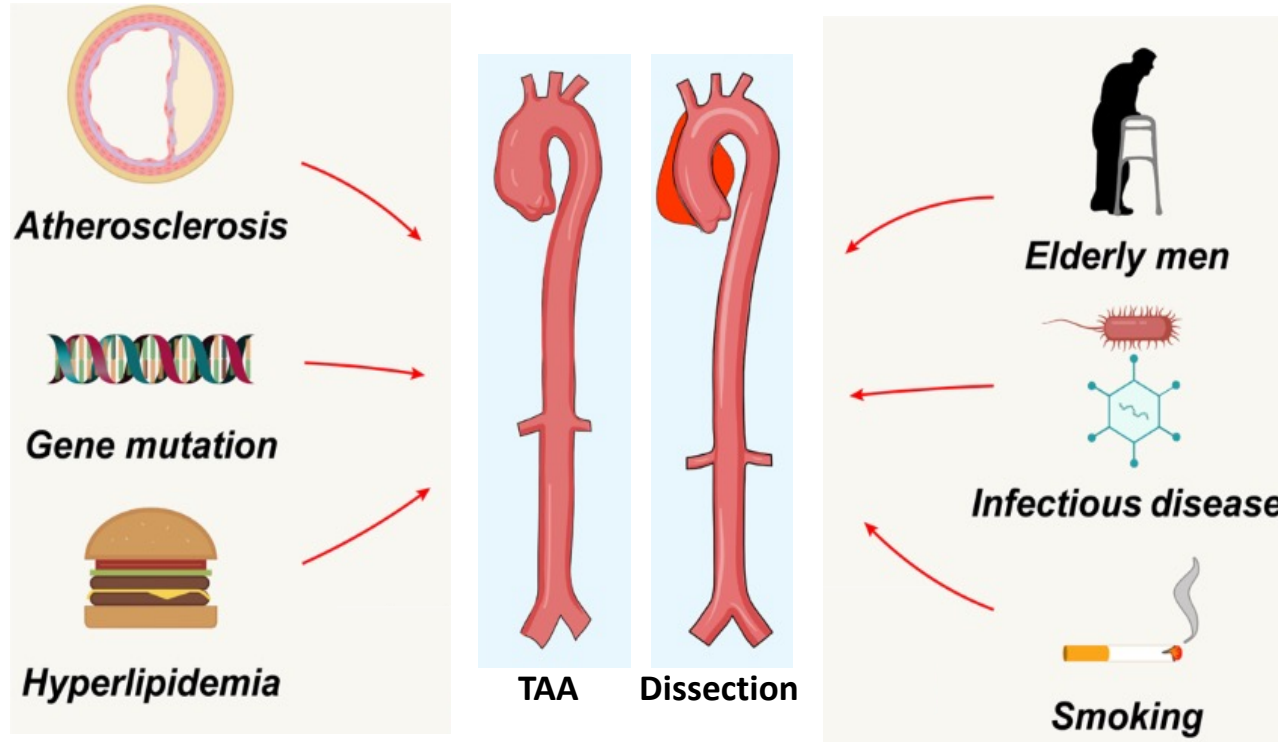


Thoracic Aortic Aneurysm



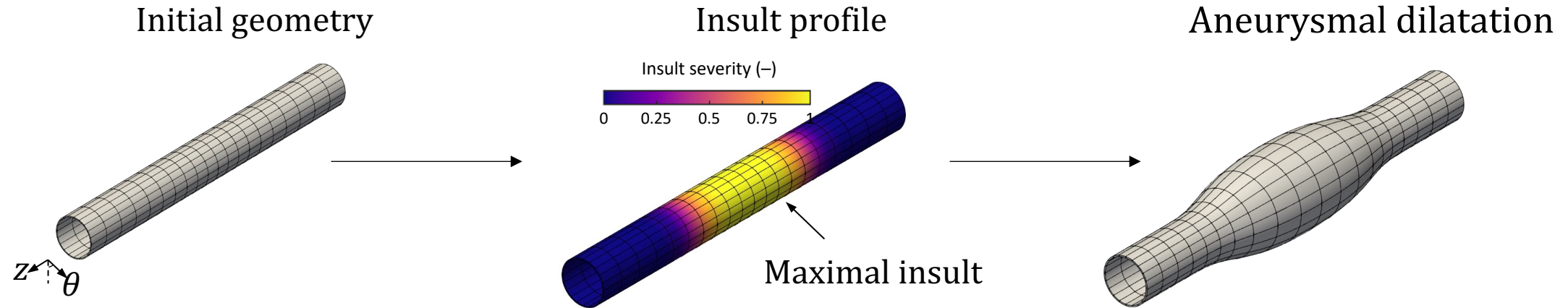
- Often grows asymptotically and clinically silent but has 90% mortality.
- Usually, an incidental finding on imaging.
- Non-syndromic TAAs account for 95% of all TAA cases.
- Rare: with incidence of 4 – 10 per 100k people per year but yearly death rate is 6.6%.
- Rare but serious: has killed Albert Einstein, Lucille Ball, George C. Scott, and John Ritter.

TAA risk factors



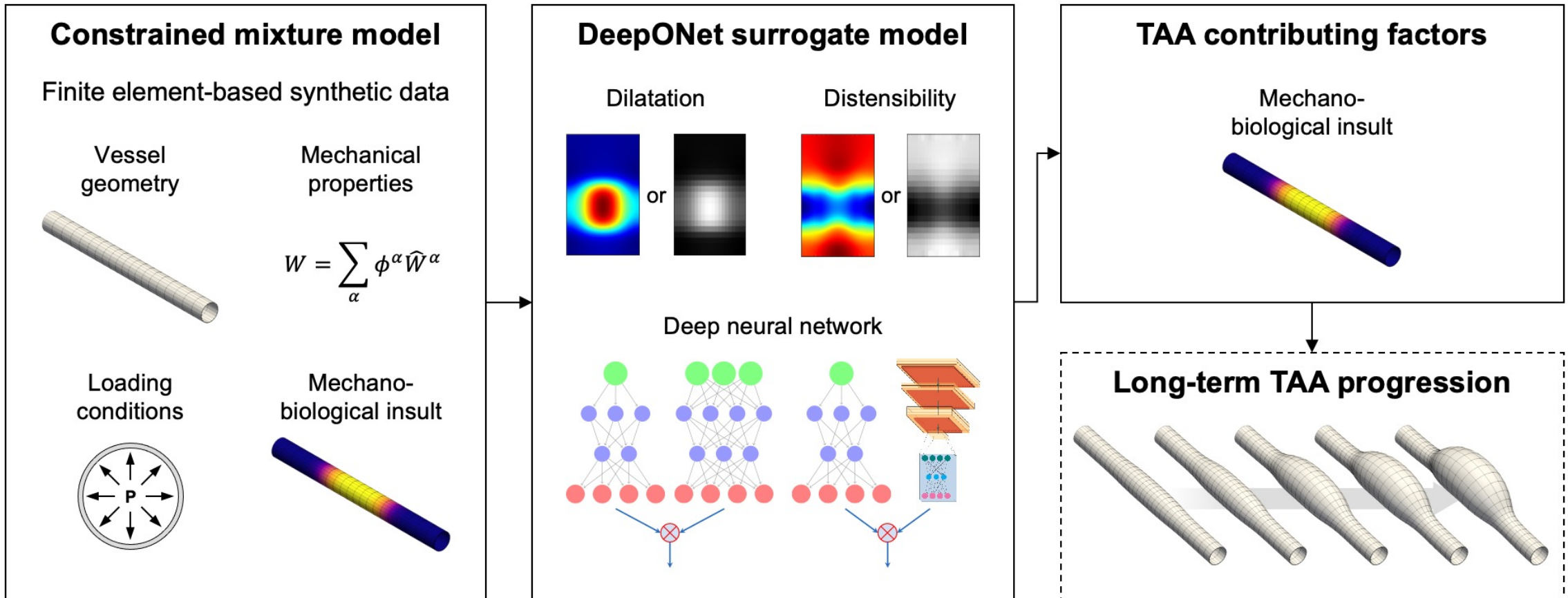
- Aortic Aneurysm is due to the inherent weakness in aortic wall layers.
- This is due to a combination of genetic factors, chronic conditions like atherosclerosis/ hyperlipidemia and other factors like smoking, infections.
- Inherent weakness + chronic stress like in hypertension → Abnormal enlargement over time.

Modeling the aneurysmal dilatation



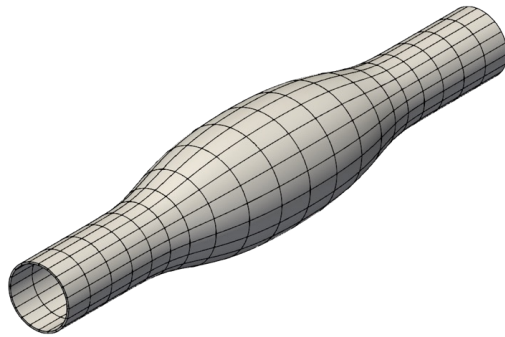
- Candidate mechanisms (insults)
 - Reduced elastic fiber integrity, C^e → Degraded elastin (fragmentation, increased voids)
 - Compromised mechanosensing, C^m → Ability of cells to sense deviations in stress from homeostatic set-point
- The insult profiles are generated considering the mechanical properties of the mouse aorta uniform wall thickness, $h_o = 40 \mu\text{m}$ and luminal radius, $r_o = 647 \mu\text{m}$.

Flowchart

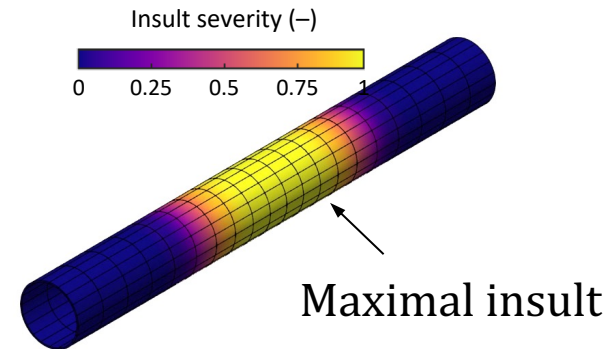


Objective 1: Predicting the contributors

Aneurysmal dilatation



Insult profile



Predict the current state of patient-specific insult profile associated with any given dilatation and distensibility map

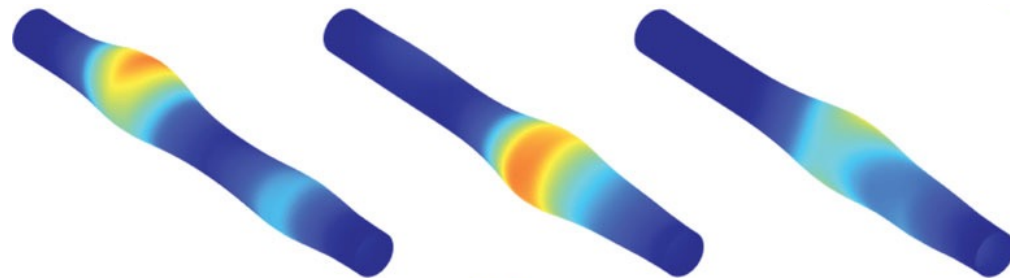
Modeling the aneurysmal dilatation

- The insult profiles are: **analytically** and **randomly** generated
- For analytically defined insult profile

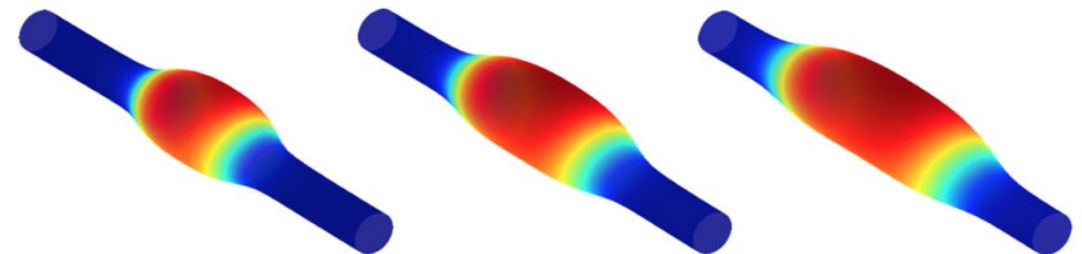
$$\vartheta(z_o, \theta_o) = \underset{\text{Maximum insult}}{\vartheta_{apex}} \exp\left(-\left|\frac{z_o - z_{apex}}{z_{od}}\right|^{v_z}\right) \exp\left(-\left|\frac{\theta_o - \theta_{apex}}{\theta_{od}}\right|^{v_\theta}\right)$$

Axial width
Circumferential width

- Cases considered for normotensive and **33%** hypertensive scenarios.
- The random insults are initially generated as ‘latent’ Gaussian random fields.

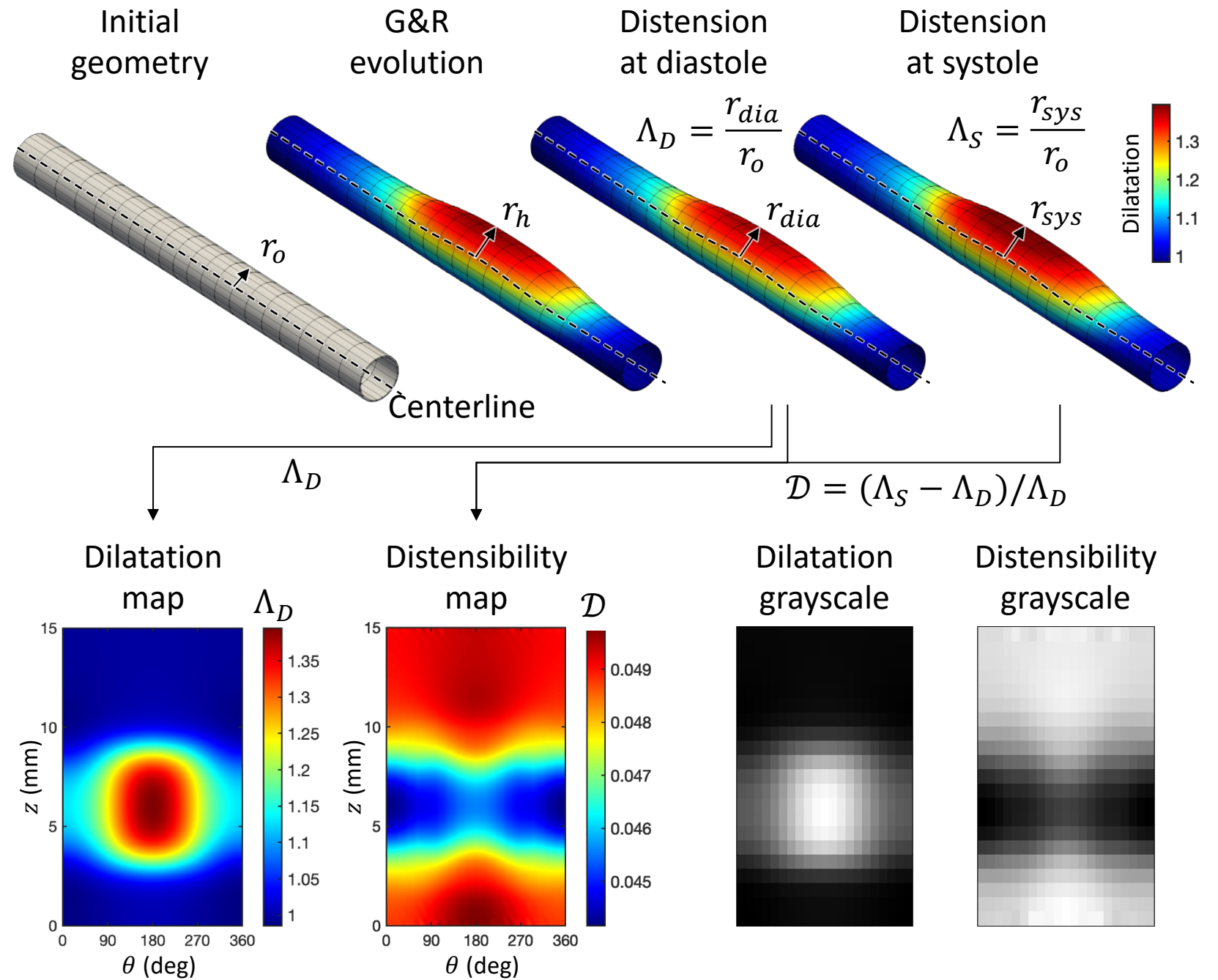


Randomly generated insults



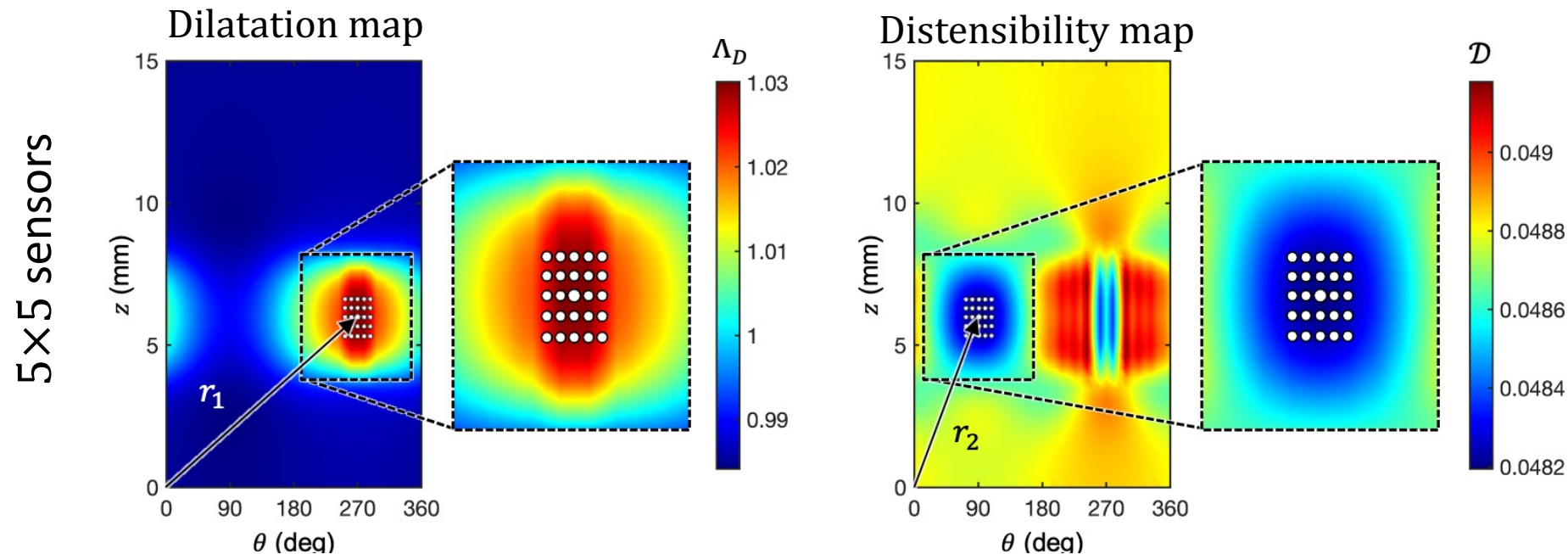
Analytically defined insults

Data Preparation



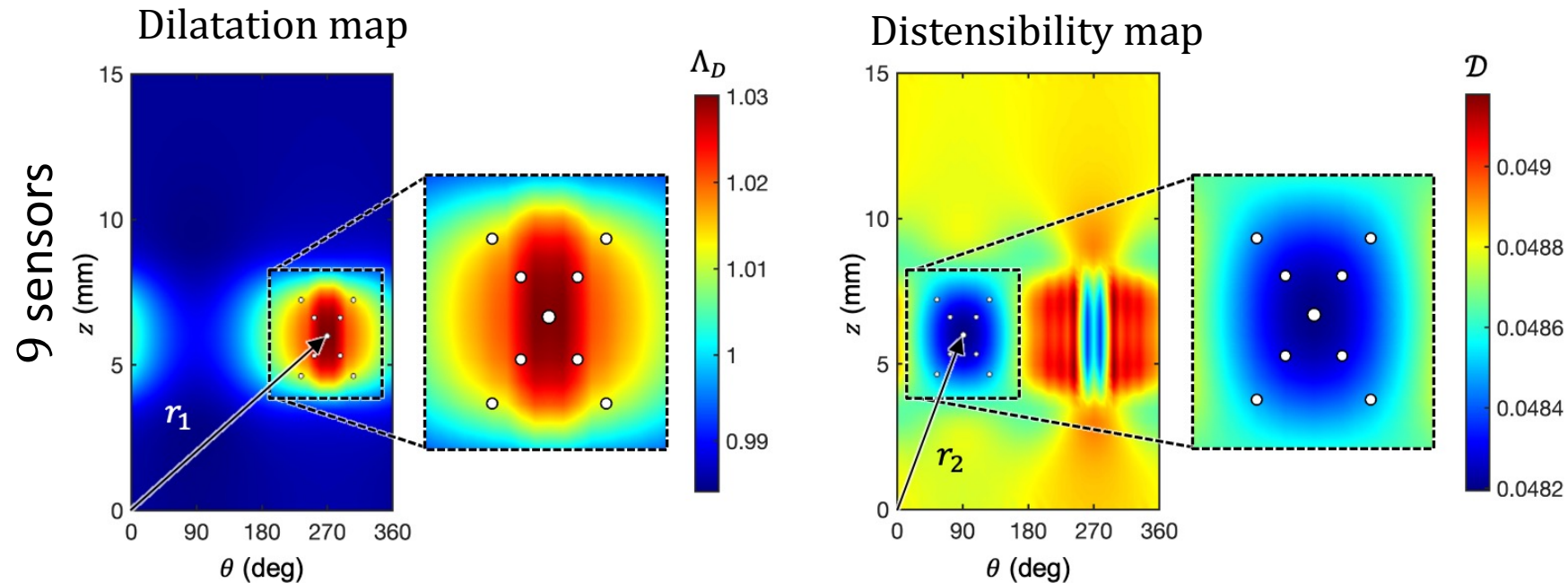
Framework 1: Using sparse measurements

- Uses sparse measurements on dilatation and distensibility maps.
- X_{Di} : co-ordinates of maximum dilatation on dilatation map
- X_{Ds} : co-ordinates of minimum distensibility on distensibility map
- r_1 : distance(X_{Di}, Q) and r_2 : distance(X_{Ds}, Q); $Q = (0,0)$.
- Place stencils (sizes: 5×5 and 9) to obtain sensor measurements.

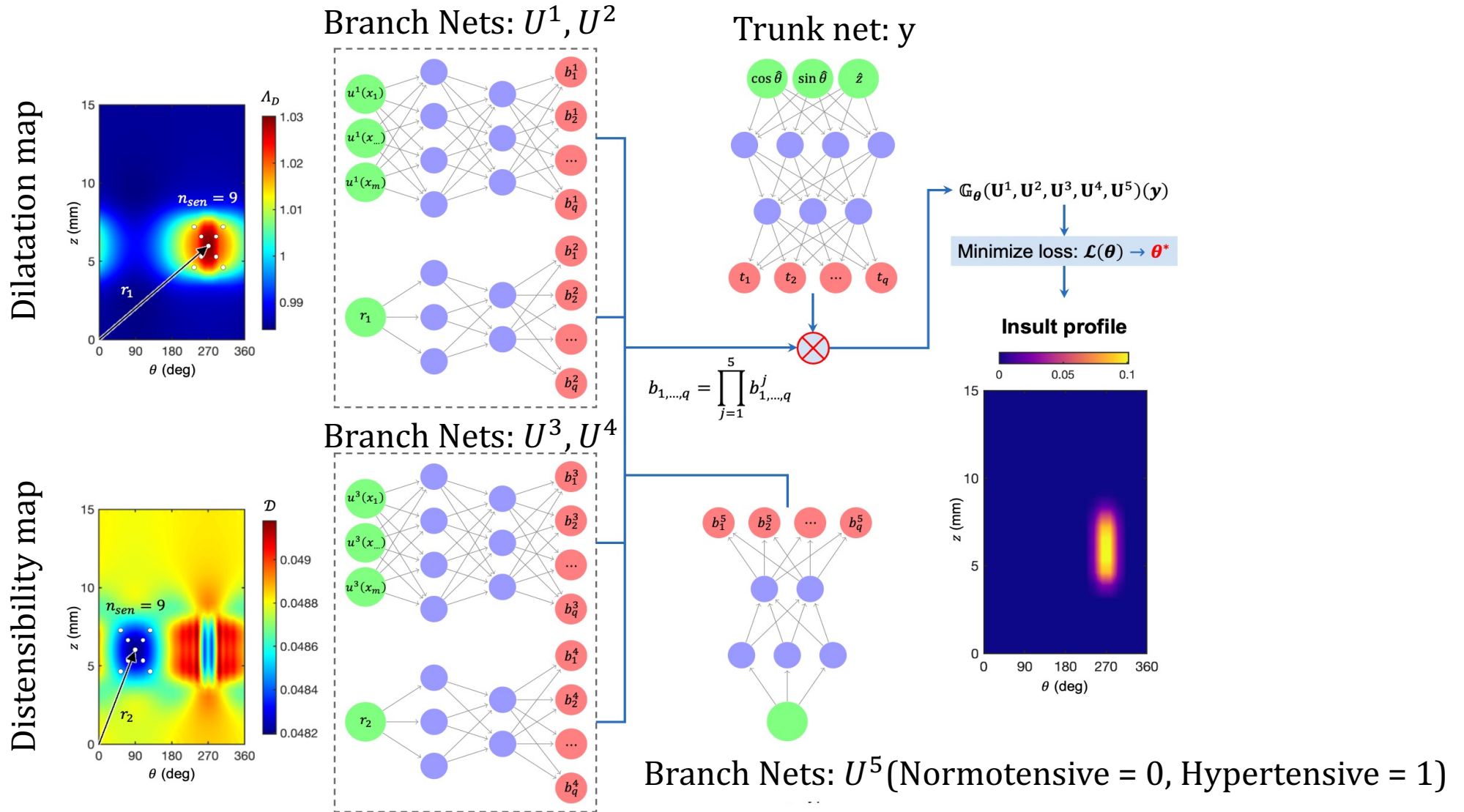


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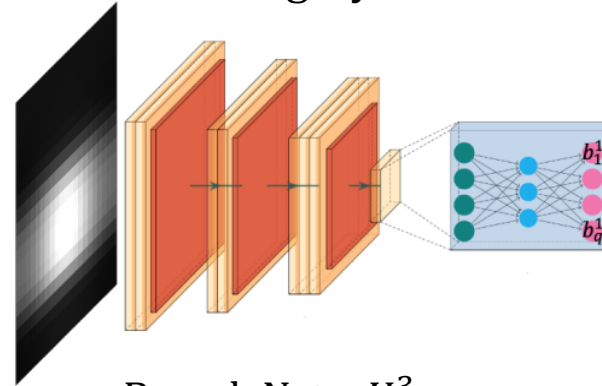
Framework 1: Using sparse measurements



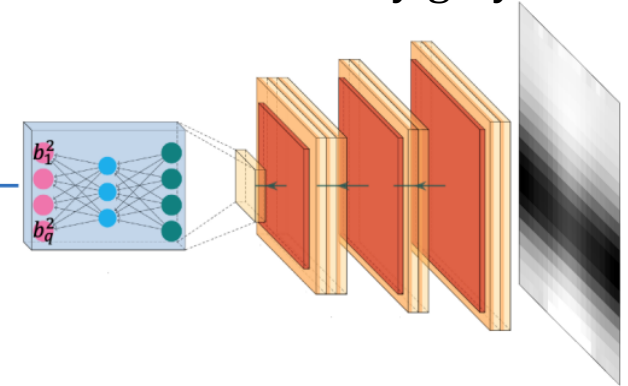
Framework 2: Using full-field images

- Original Resolution of the images: 41×40
- Input to the network: Reduced resolution 21×20
- Mimic real-world USG and MRI

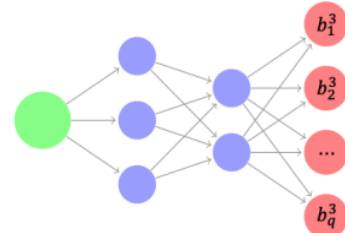
U^1 : Dilatation greyscale



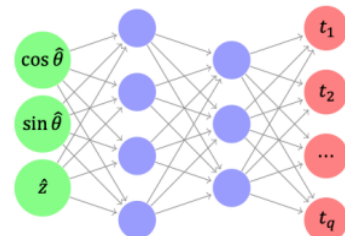
U^2 : Distensibility greyscale



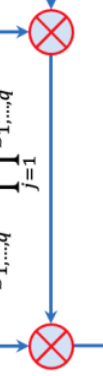
Branch Nets: U^3
(NT = 0, HT = 1)



Trunk net: y

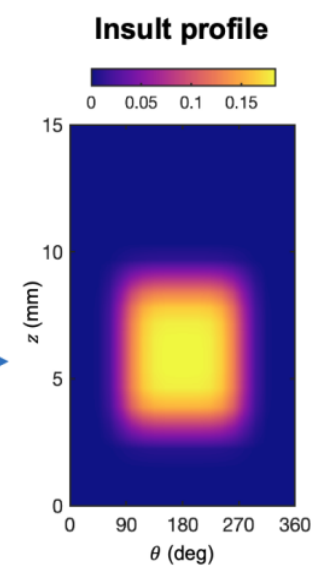


$$b_{1,\dots,q} = \prod_{j=1}^3 b_{1,\dots,q}^j$$



$$\mathbb{G}_\theta(\mathbf{U}^1, \mathbf{U}^2, \mathbf{U}^3)(\mathbf{y})$$

Minimize loss:
 $\mathcal{L}(\theta) \rightarrow \theta^*$



Study Cases and Results

EFI: Loss of elastic fiber integrity

MS: Loss of mechanosensing

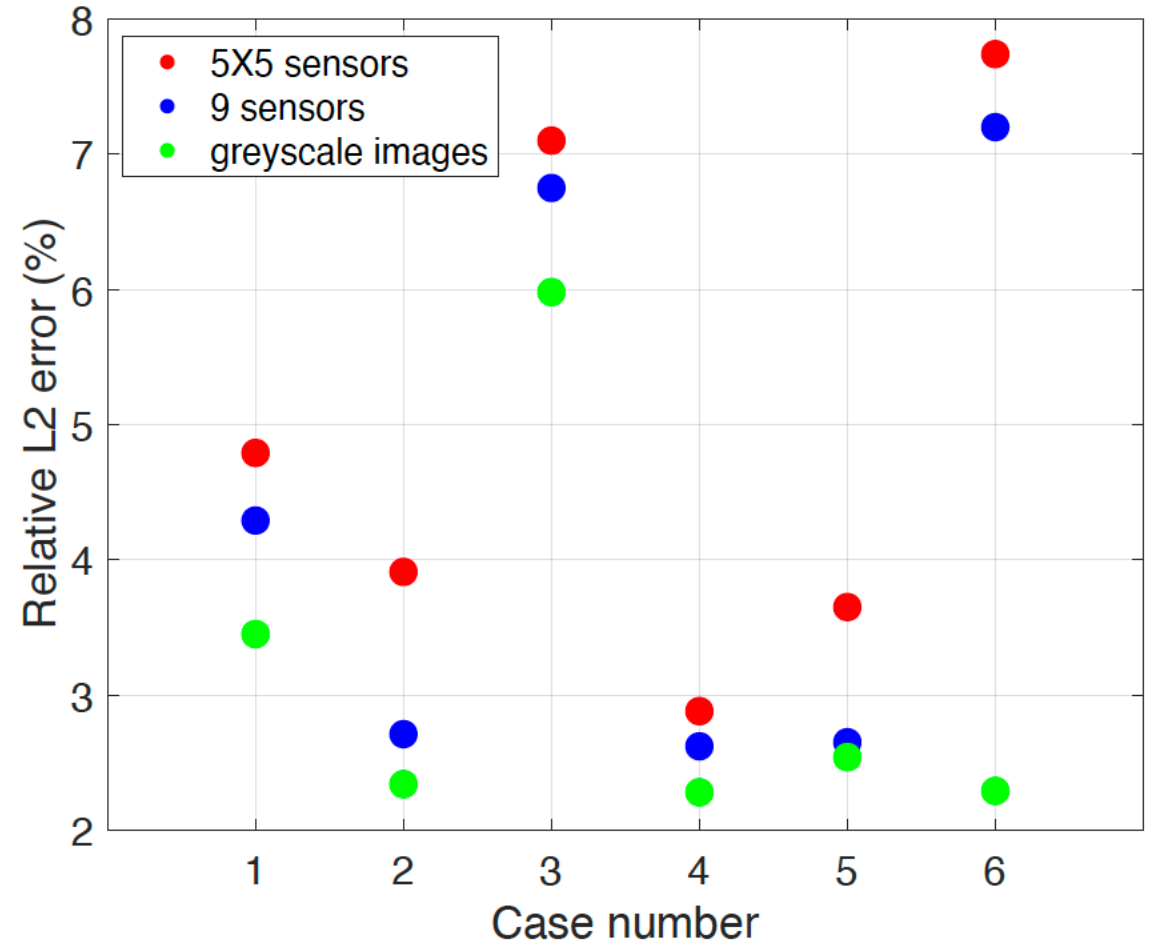
HT: Hypertensive

NT: Normotensive

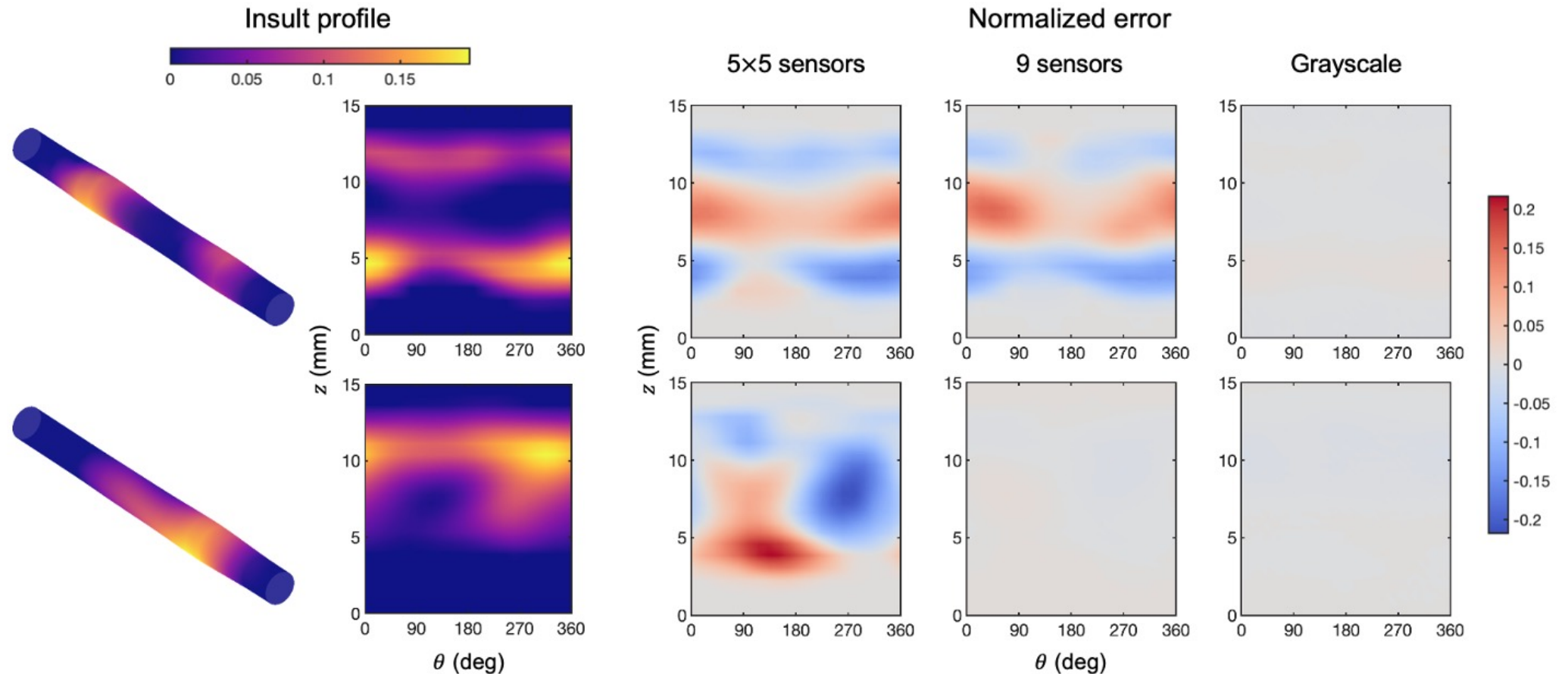
- *Case1* - **EFI** (**NT**) - 545
- *Case2* - **MS** (**NT**) - 545
- *Case3* - **EFI** or **MS** (**NT**) - 500
- *Case4* - **MS** (**NT** or **HT**) - 500
- *Case5* - **EFI** or **MS** (**NT** or **HT**) - 720
- *Case6* - Randomly generated **EFI** or **MS** (**NT**) - 90

Analytically
generated

The numbers denote the number of training samples

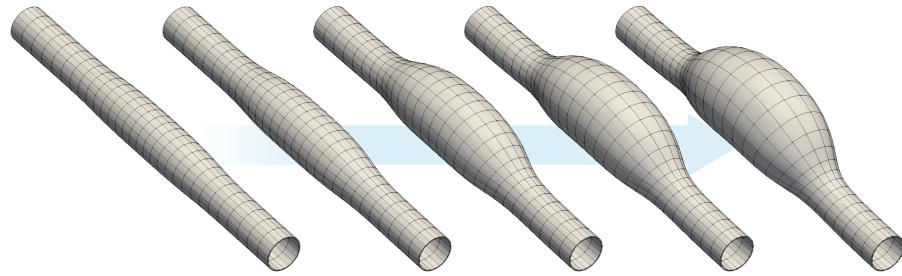


Point measurements vs noisy images



We interpret that CNNs are good de-noisers. So, even with noisy low resolution of the full field images, CNNs framework is better than accurate pointwise measurement.

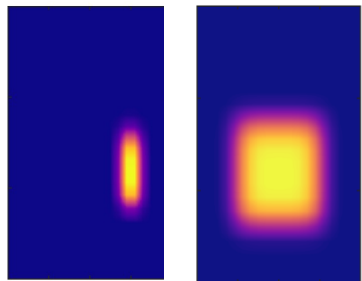
Objective 2: Predicting aneurysm growth and outcomes



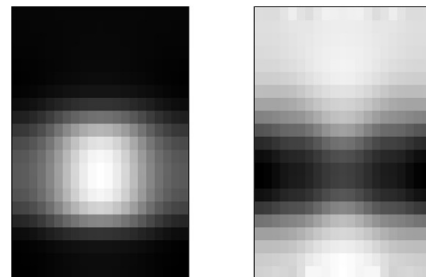
Aneurysm progression

Objective 2: To predict growth of the current aneurysm over the next 6 months and 12 months, given previous & current records.

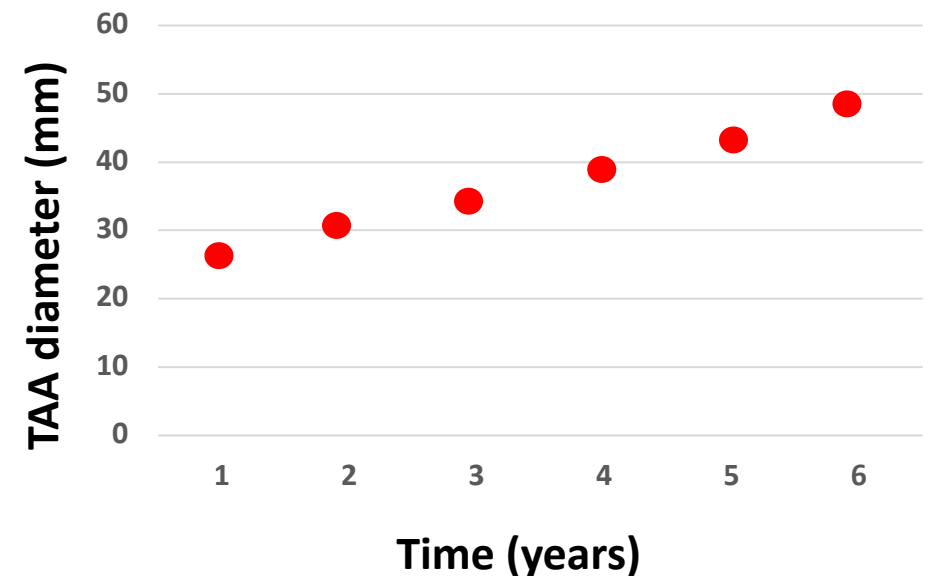
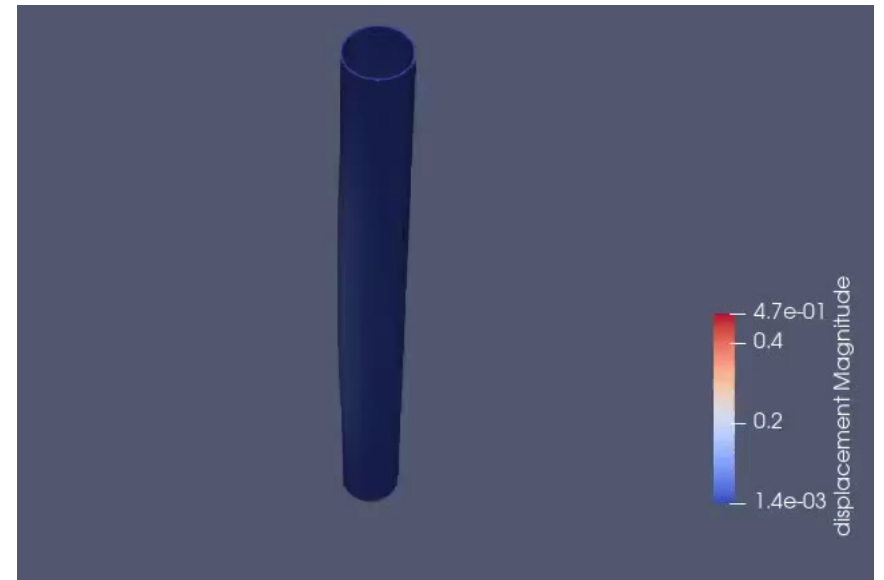
Previous records of insult profiles



Current dilatation and distensibility map



Patient specific information
(Gender, Marfan Syndrome, HT, etc.)



Key takeaways

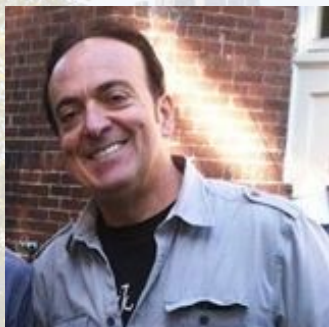
- Accurate prediction of the insult profile can be achieved with the inclusion of dilatation and distensibility fields.
- Predicting insult profiles with information at 5x5 sensor locations is sufficiently accurate for cases with $\theta_{od} < 260^\circ$ and relatively small z_{od} .
- With a wider θ_{od} and broader z_{od} , limited information within a single-spaced neighborhood near the maximum dilatation and minimum distensibility is insufficient. Hence doubly-spaced 9 sensors are beneficial in such cases.
- The choice of a CNN to train on greyscale images benefits the model in terms of not only predictive accuracy but also computational efficiency, as this framework requires fewer learnable parameters compared with the models employing FNNs.

References



1. **Goswami, S.***, **Li, D. S. S.***, **Rego, B. V.**, **Latorre, M.**, **Humphrey, J. D.**, & **Karniadakis, G. E. (2022)**. **Neural operator learning of heterogeneous mechanobiological insults contributing to aortic aneurysms. *Journal of the Royal Society Interface*, 19(193), 20220410.**
2. Lu, Lu, Pengzhan Jin, Guofei Pang, Zhongqiang Zhang, and George Em Karniadakis. (2021) Learning nonlinear operators via DeepONet based on the universal approximation theorem of operators. *Nature Machine Intelligence* 3, no. 3: 218-229.
3. Chen, T., & Chen, H. (1995). Universal approximation to nonlinear operators by neural networks with arbitrary activation functions and its application to dynamical systems. *IEEE Transactions on Neural Networks*, 6(4), 911-917.

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Thank you!

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