What You Can See in Limited Data Tomography

Todd Quinto

Tufts University Medford, Massachusetts, USA

DTU High School Day, November 17, 2016!

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Allan won the 1979 Nobel Prize in Medicine! (early AM)...taught!

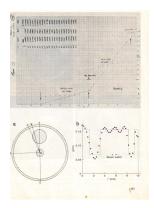


Allan Cormack + his CT Scanner

Allan + Scanner



His calculations from 1963





Complete Tomographic Data

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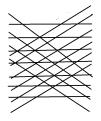
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Example: The data set is only horizontal-ish lines—with slope between -1 and +1.

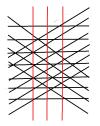




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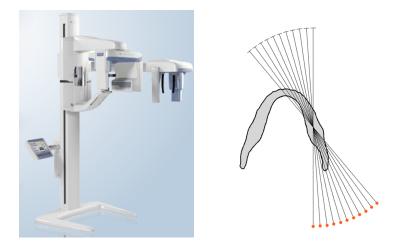
Example: The data set is only horizontal-ish lines—with slope between -1 and +1.



Vertical-*ish* lines are missing from the data set. (1) and (1)

Limited Angle CT in Dental Imaging

Dental Scanner-head goes in "П" Jaw showing X-ray projection angles



http://www.siltanen-research.net



Limited Angle CT in Luggage Testing

Luggage Scanner

Sample Luggage scan



Analogic COBRA carry-on luggage scanner

Our Goals Today:

Determine what features of the body will be easy to reconstruct from limited angle CT data, and which will be difficult.



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Our Goals Today:

Determine what features of the body will be easy to reconstruct from limited angle CT data, and which will be difficult.

Inderstand, geometrically, how this depends on the data.

Now do math then analyze limited angle CT reconstructions!





My Answer: The bones and their edges (boundaries)!



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My Answer: The bones and their edges (boundaries)!



Which X-ray beams show the edges (boundaries) (pic \rightarrow)?

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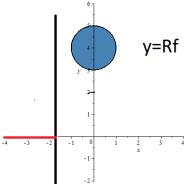


Which X-ray beams show the edges (boundaries) (pic \rightarrow)? Answer: The beams tangent to the edges (boundaries) of the bones!

Now see why mathematically.

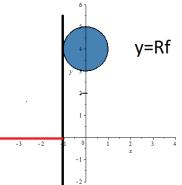
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Profile curve of a disk of radius one from the south (vertical lines)

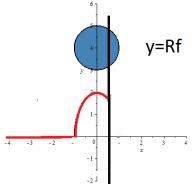


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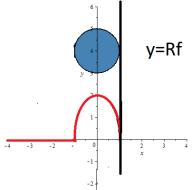
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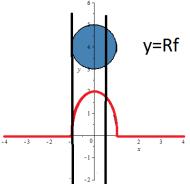


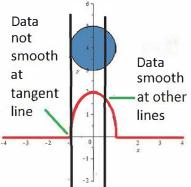
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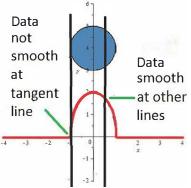






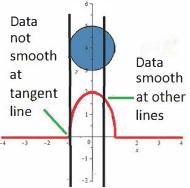
The CT data has a "corner" (graph not smooth) at a line tangent to the boundary of the disk.

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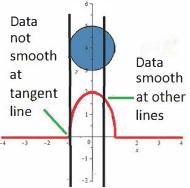
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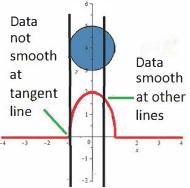
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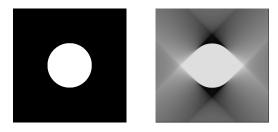


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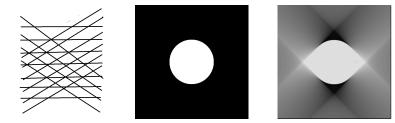
Limited angle CT data of a disk over lines with slope between -1 and 1.





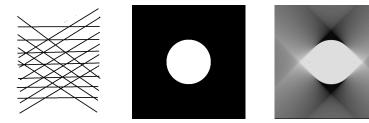
[Frikel, Q 2013] Left: disk, Right: FBP reconstruction

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Which boundaries of the disk are visible in the reconstruction?

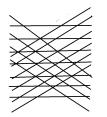


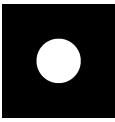


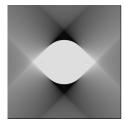
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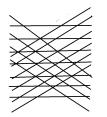
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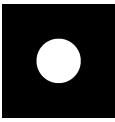
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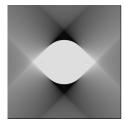
We learned that, if a line in the data set is tangent to a boundary, that boundary will be easy to see in the reconstruction.

Is that true in this picture?









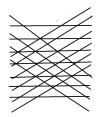
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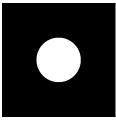
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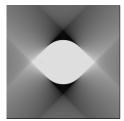
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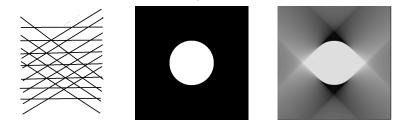
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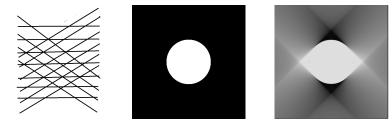
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This illustrates the moral: a part of the boundary of an object will be visible in the reconstruction if it is tangent to a line in the data set!



Which boundaries of the disk are <u>not</u> visible in the reconstruction?

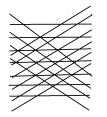


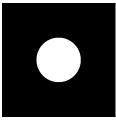


Which boundaries of the disk are <u>not</u> visible in the reconstruction?

Answer: the vertical-ish boundaries.









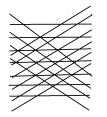
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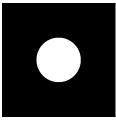
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We learned that, if no line in the data set is tangent to a boundary, that boundary will be hard to see in the reconstruction.

Is that true in this picture?









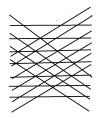
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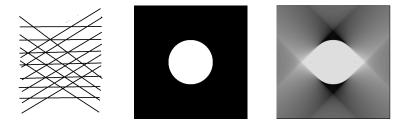
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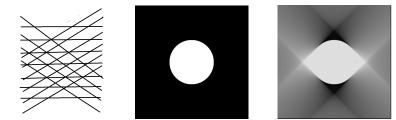
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How do the streaks relate to the data set and object?

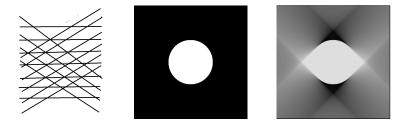




How do the streaks relate to the data set and object?

What are their slopes?



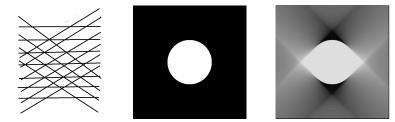


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Either -1 or +1—they are lines at the ends of the data set.





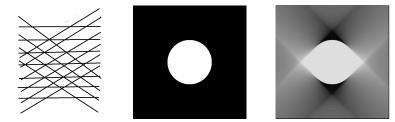
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How do the streak lines relate to the object?





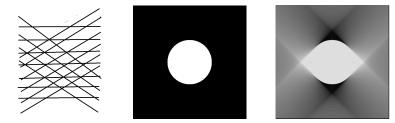
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What are their slopes?

Either -1 or +1-they are lines at the ends of the data set.

How do the streak lines relate to the object? They are tangent to the object.

New Moral: Lines at the ends of the data set (min. or max. slope) that are tangent to the object can cause streak artifacts in limited angle reconstructions.

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A boundary of the object is *visible* in the reconstruction if:





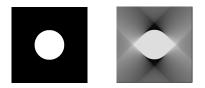
A boundary of the object is visible in the reconstruction if: it is tangent to a line in the data set!





- A boundary of the object is visible in the reconstruction if: it is tangent to a line in the data set!
- A boundary of the object is *invisible* (not seen) in the reconstruction if:

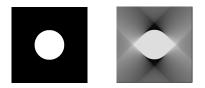




- A boundary of the object is visible in the reconstruction if: it is tangent to a line in the data set!
- A boundary of the object is *invisible* (not seen) in the reconstruction if:

it is not tangent to any line in the data set.

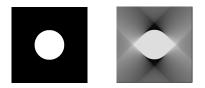




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For this data set, a streak artifact can occur on a line tangent to the object and with slope:



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 For this data set, a streak artifact can occur on a line tangent to the object and with slope:<u>+1 or -1</u> -in general: a line tangent to the object and at an end of the data set!



If a boundary of the object is tangent to a line in the data set, then it will (should) be visible in the reconstruction.



Summary

- If a boundary of the object is tangent to a line in the data set, then it will (should) be visible in the reconstruction.
- If a boundary of the object is not tangent to any line in the data set, then it will be invisible (or at least difficult to find) in the reconstruction.



- If a boundary of the object is tangent to a line in the data set, then it will (should) be visible in the reconstruction.
- If a boundary of the object is not tangent to any line in the data set, then it will be invisible (or at least difficult to find) in the reconstruction.
- If a boundary of the object is *tangent* to a line *at an end of the data set*, then it will create a streak in the reconstruction along that line.

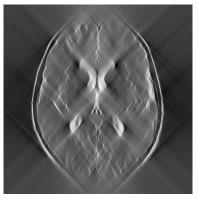


- If a boundary of the object is tangent to a line in the data set, then it will (should) be visible in the reconstruction.
- If a boundary of the object is not tangent to any line in the data set, then it will be invisible (or at least difficult to find) in the reconstruction.
- If a boundary of the object is *tangent* to a line *at an end of the data set*, then it will create a streak in the reconstruction along that line.
- Where is the math?
 - Geometry was used to describe visible and invisible boundaries + streaks.
 - These observations are justified using deep mathematics (microlocal analysis) related to calculus.

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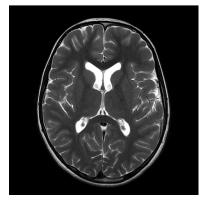
Limited angle CT data of a brain. What lines are in the data set?

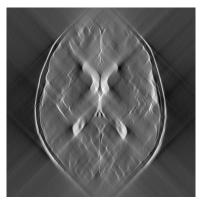




Brain phantom (left) [radiopedia.org], FBP reconstruction [Frikel, Q 2013]

Limited angle CT data of a brain. What lines are in the data set?





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Brain phantom (left) [radiopedia.org], FBP reconstruction [Frikel, Q 2013]

- Which features of the brain are visible in the reconstruction? Which are invisible?
- Where are the added streak artifacts?

Exterior Tomography: tomography using only lines that are outside a disk to reconstruct the region outside the disk.



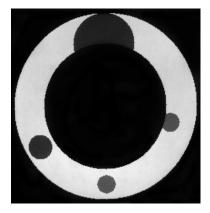


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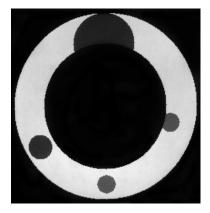
Exterior CT is used to evaluate of rockets because industrial X-ray CT scanners can't penetrate the thick central part of the rocket, but they can penetrate the outside annulus. Often scientists are interested in cracks, etc., in the rocket shell, anyway.

What boundaries will be easy to see in an exterior reconstruction of the phantom on the left?



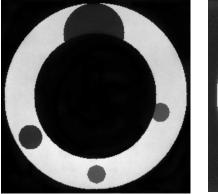


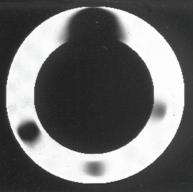
What boundaries will be easy to see in an exterior reconstruction of the phantom on the left?



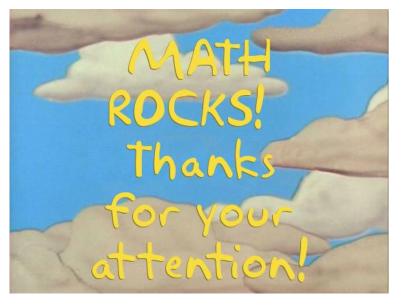


What boundaries will be easy to see in an exterior reconstruction of the phantom on the left? [Q1988])











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