

Simulation of Deformable Vasculature for Robot-assisted Endovascular Catheterization

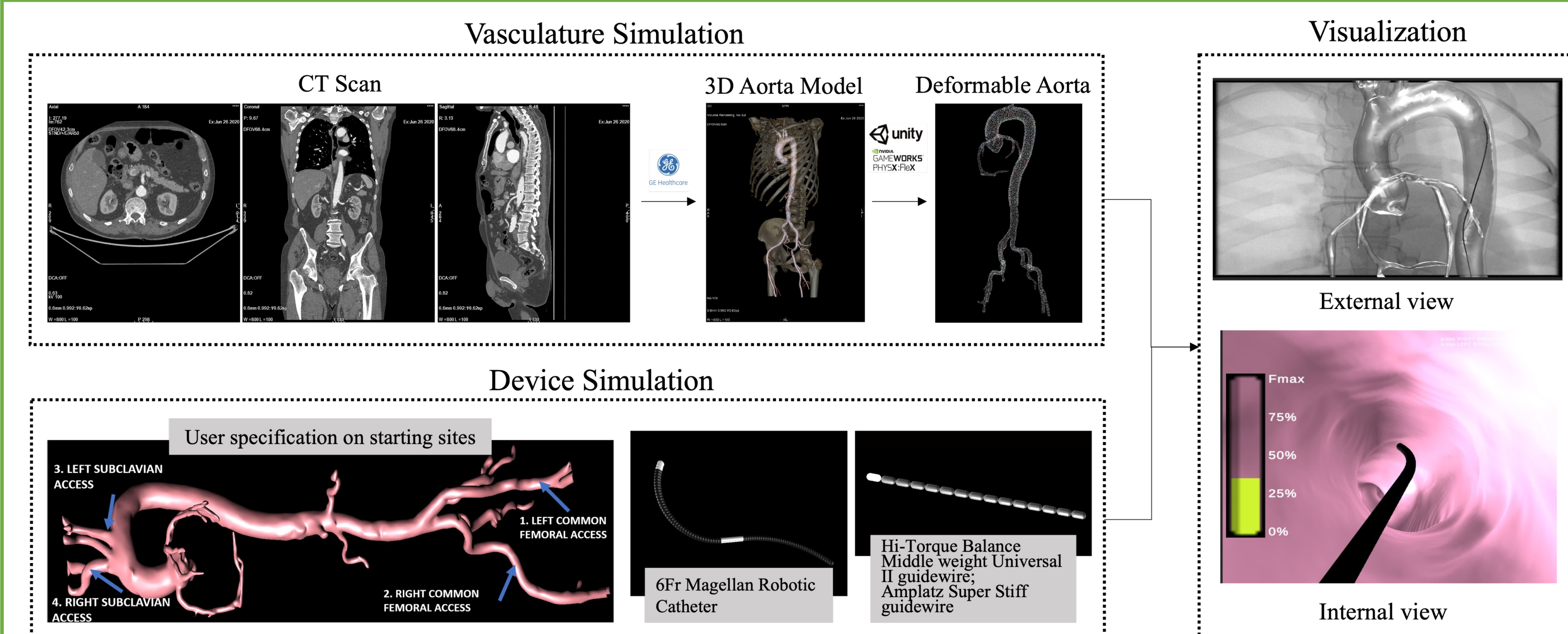
Zhen Li^{1,2}, Enrico Manzionna¹, Giovanni Monizzi³, Angelo Mastrangelo³, Maria Elisabetta Mancini³, Daniele Andreini³, Jenny Dankelman², Elena De Momi¹

Introduction

A virtual endovascular catheterization system that simulates the characteristics of robotic catheters and deformable vessels can provide a dynamic environment for robot-assisted interventions simulation.

Although state-of-the-art research investigates deformations of vessels due to the device's contact, vessels movement due to heartbeat motion, and the robotic catheter's steerability, a modeling and simulation method involving all those components in one individual framework has not been reported yet.

Materials and Methods



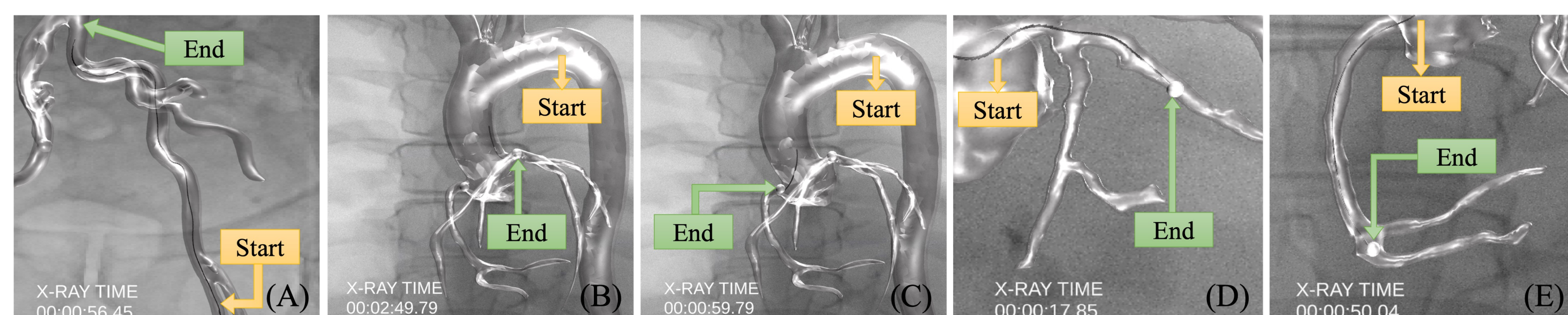
The overview of the proposed system presents

- the workflow from the extraction of the patient-specific deformable vessel mesh model (top left)
- and the device simulation procedure (bottom left)
- to the visualization of the simulated training environment (right).

We proposed a vasculature deformation model that relies on a Position-based Dynamics (PBD) approach [1]. This work presents an auto-adaptive calibration using Particle Swarm Optimization (PSO) algorithm on PBD deformation parameters and the vessels movement due to heartbeat.

Results

The simulator uses a novel calibration approach (PSO) with respect to literature, and it has a mismatch (root mean square error, mean error±standard deviation) of (0.26%, 0.23±0.13%) for deformation and (0.87mm, 0.71±0.50mm) for the aortic root displacement due to the heartbeat motion.

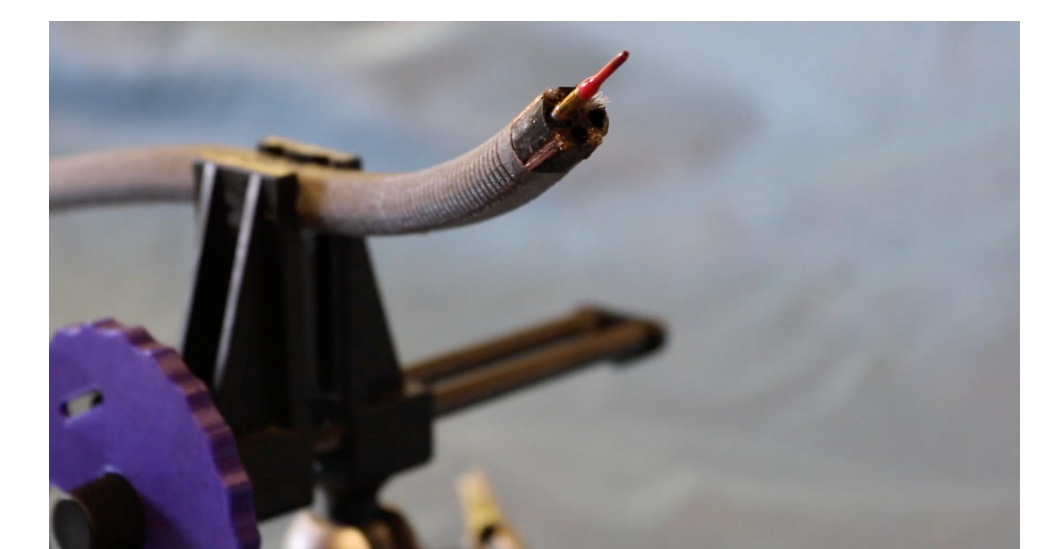


The validity and visual authenticity of the virtual system were evaluated by cardiologists (ten experts and ten novices). The experts reached a playtime of 171.1±111.2s and collision response of 5.0±8.0 for right coronary cannulation, while the novices reached a playtime of 83.9±46.1s and collision response of 15.2±42.1.

Discussions and Conclusions

The real-time and accurate performance of the simulator make this framework suitable for creating a dynamic environment for intra-operative path planning and control for robotic catheters.

Future work will be to develop a simulator with real-time path planning [2] for a medical robotic platform for endovascular catheterization such as [3].



Biography

Zhen Li

2019- Double Ph. D. student of Politecnico di Milano and TU Delft, as an ESR with the Marie Curie ATLAS project under European Union Innovative Training Network.

2017-2019 Double Master Degree in Advanced Robotics, Ecole Centrale de Nantes, France and Warsaw University of Technology, Poland

2013-2017 Bachelor in Artificial Intelligence, Nankai University, Tianjin, China.



References & Acknowledgment

- [1] Zhen Li; Enrico Manzionna; Monizzi Giovanni; Mastrangelo Angelo; Andreini Daniele; Dankelman Jenny; Elena De Momi. Development of a virtual simulator for endovascular catheterization training. *Poster presentation at the 13th Hamlyn Symposium on Medical Robotics*, 2021.
- [2] Zhen Li, Jenny Dankelman and Elena De Momi, Path planning for endovascular catheterization under curvature constraints via two-phase searching approach. *International Journal of Computer Assisted radiology and surgery (IJCARS)*. 16 (4), 619–627 (2021).
- [3] M. H. D. Ansari, B. Farola Barata, F. Trauzettel, Z. Li, D. Wu, D. Dall'Alba, G. Borghesan, M. Ourak, V. Iacovacci, S. Tognarelli, J. Dankelman, E. De Momi, P. Breedveld, P. Fiorini, J. Vander Sloten, A. Menciassi, and E. Vander Poorten, "Proof-of-concept medical robotic platform for endovascular catheterization," in *Proc. of the 11th Conference on New Technologies for Computer and Robot Assisted Surgery (CRAS)*, 2022.

*This work was supported by the ATLAS project. This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under the Marie Skłodowska-Curie grant agreement No 813782.